# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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## Inter-Arab Affairs

### League Official Comments on Israel's Lebanon Policy

*NC1507212093 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Ambassador 'Adnan 'Imran, the Arab League's assistant secretary general for political affairs, told our radio correspondent that there is extreme concern in the Arab world over Israeli threats to Lebanon. 'Imran described the threats as an addition to Israel's long record of aggression in the region.

Israel, the Arab League official said, through its policy of aggression, hopes to undermine the peace process and perpetuate tension in the region.

'Imran expressed the hope that U.S. officials know these facts and understand the perils involved in the continuation of this Israeli policy, which could harm the United States and undermine its role in the region.

## Palestinian Affairs

### PLO's Abu-Mazin Denies Meeting Peres in Cairo

*JN1607134293 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Muhammad Kurayshan dispatch from Tunis]

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Member Mahmud 'Abbas, also known as Abu-Mazin, has denied meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres in Cairo on 6 July as the Israeli paper YEDI'OT AHARONOT reported.

Abu-Mazin explained to our radio that this report is groundless, and that he arrived in Cairo 48 hours after Peres had left. Abu-Mazin also denied meeting with Dennis Ross, the U.S. coordinator for the peace process.

Abu-Mazin said he wished he could have met with them, but this did not take place.

On Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi's recent statements, in which he called for a collective PLO leadership, Abu-Mazin said one must not wait for the PLO to reply or comment on these statements. He explained that it is necessary to hear Dr. 'Abd-'al-Shafi air his views on this issue in person. But Abu-Mazin added: There is respect and appreciation for 'Abd-al-Shafi's viewpoints, and in principle, he has the right to express his stands with freedom and as he wishes.

Meanwhile, the Fatah Central Committee is resuming its meetings today. It had left them open two weeks ago to listen to reports by the delegations that visited some Arab countries, particularly Damascus, where Faruq Qaddumi and Hani al-Hasan held a series of meetings with the Palestinian factions that oppose the peace negotiations.

The Fatah Revolutionary Council is also expected to meet in Tunis on Sunday [18 July] or Monday.

### Daily Comments on Reported Israeli-PLO Contacts

*TA1507174393 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 15 Jul 93 p 9*

[Editorial: "Lessons From the Secret Contacts"]

[Text] The news media recently reported secret contacts between PLO and Israeli contacts. Confirmation and denial of such contacts followed. Israeli political circles, headed by the prime minister and his foreign minister, emphasized their denial.

Leaked reports may have a special purpose and may be highlighted at this point in time, or those contacts might have been inflated for the same reason. The important thing is that such contacts are expected. Negotiations—any negotiations—are conducted in official and unofficial ways. Secret contacts might have actually taken place between the PLO and the Israeli Government, but the important thing is to learn from those contacts.

The first lesson is that the current official talks in Washington have proved that they cannot achieve quick and effective results although the PLO is actually participating indirectly in the negotiating process. Hence, the PLO's practical and direct participation in the talks is necessary for advancing the negotiating process. It is worth noting that many Israeli cabinet ministers have reached this conclusion and are demanding that this Israeli psychological barrier be broken.

The second lesson to be drawn from the secret contacts is recognition of the PLO's actual participation in those talks even if they remain subject to the same fundamental Israeli restrictions and conditions. The question is: Considering the Israeli stance on secret and official contacts with the PLO, what will change if the PLO were to sit at the negotiating table? And who is drawing the other party toward it now? The PLO's official presence at the negotiating table will promote progress if the conditions of the negotiating process are changed. We must pay attention to the fact that the PLO's mere presence at the negotiating table is not a sufficient reason—although it is necessary—for such a change in the negotiating terms.

The third and final lesson is that whatever takes place in secret will eventually become public. Hence, secret contacts by themselves will not realize anything unless their results are announced and are accepted and adopted at the official negotiating table. It is abundantly clear that the Palestinians will not accept or adopt any agreement that does not realize the basic Palestinian conditions for ensuring the achievement of Palestinian national rights.

### 'Abd-al-Shafi: Jerusalem Dispute Might Halt Talks

*TA1607100593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0905 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Israel's intransigence on the question of Jerusalem will lead to the cessation of the entire peace process, Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation to the talks with Israel, warned this morning. Unless East Jerusalem is given back, there will be no peace in the region, he said at a rally dealing with the issue. Our correspondent Moti Amir was at the rally. Here is his report:

[Begin recording] [Amir] The rally in East Jerusalem was attended by members of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, Muslim and Christian clergymen, and public figures who object to the entire process. Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi primarily referred to the crux of the dispute in the negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians—the status of East Jerusalem and the rights of the Palestinians over the Arab part of the city. He expressed disappointment with the peace talks so far and noted that in the last round of talks he had announced that if East Jerusalem is not in Palestinian hands there will be no peace in the region and that Israel and the United States must know that.

In an interview with us, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi said that Israel's intransigence on the question of East Jerusalem endangers the entire peace process.

['Abd-al-Shafi, in English] Indeed, if Israel maintains its position regarding Jerusalem, I think it will kill the peace process.

[Amir interprets the above and continues] According to him, alternative solutions to the problem of Jerusalem are not at stake now.

['Abd-al-Shafi, in English] Discussions of options must wait. I am not ready to talk about options now, but the important thing is that Israel should concede the Palestinian right in Jerusalem.

[Amir interprets the above and continues] Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi pointed out that the Palestinian leaders are waiting to see what Secretary Warren Christopher will bring along with him in order to revive the peace process. He emphasized that so far the talks with Dennis Ross and his aides have not been encouraging and that, consequently, negotiations about the final status of the territories must be attempted in a bid to rescue the entire peace process.

['Abd-al-Shafi, in English] I think I am inclined to agree with Mr. Peres that it is more realistic to discuss and negotiate the final status before, because the discussion of the interim period is riddled with difficulties. It has proved the fact that 10 rounds did not reach anywhere. It is only a demonstration of the difficulties involved in discussing the interim period.

[Amir interprets the above and continues] Without directing his criticism at PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi reiterated his call on the PLO leadership to embrace the principles of democracy with regard to the decisions about the future of the Palestinian people in the territories. [end recording]

### 'Urayqat: U.S. Urged to Negotiate With PLO

*TA1507160093 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 15 Jul 93 p 2*

[Text] Ramallah—Dr. Sa'ib 'Urayqat, deputy head of the Palestinian negotiating delegation, affirmed that during the three meetings with the U.S. peace team, headed by Dennis Ross, the Palestinian delegation's members called on the United States to establish contact with the PLO so that the principle of real equality in representation will be realized. According to 'Urayqat, there is no longer any sense in continuing the suspension of the dialogue between the United States and the PLO.

'Urayqat added that in its meetings with Ross, the Palestinian delegation stressed its refusal to deal with the paper of 30 June as a basis for discussion. He said that, consequently, this paper was put aside and the discussions focused on the issues of Jerusalem and jurisdiction over land. 'Urayqat noted that the Palestinian letter affirmed that the Palestinian side continues to persist in its concern and interest to protect and uphold the peace process and its goals.

On the 12 July meeting, 'Urayqat said that the Palestinian side presented a written formula containing the Palestinian concept on the issue of jurisdiction over land and the question of Jerusalem. This draft differentiated between the meaning of sovereignty and jurisdiction over land. It considered the scope of Palestinian jurisdiction in the transitional stage to include all the occupied Palestinian territories that were not under Israeli occupation on 4 June 1967, including Jerusalem. According to 'Urayqat, one cannot imagine any sort of agreement without taking this point into account.

On the U.S. side's answers, 'Urayqat said that the U.S. delegation presented a three-point package:

First: A political document, which 'Urayqat described as less than a declaration of principles and more than the U.S. document presented earlier.

Second: The issue of early empowerment of responsibilities and powers was raised again.

Third: The issue of the situation on the ground.

'Urayqat said the Americans believe that progress on the Israeli- Palestinian track will allow progress to be made on the other tracks. 'Urayqat affirmed that the U.S. side asked the Palestinian side to present a critique of the U.S. paper or clearly defined formulations and comments on the U.S. document.

'Urayqat considered the issue of early empowerment of authority, raised by the U.S. side, as a new label for an old piece of merchandise that falls within framework of the self-government's functional program. 'Urayqat said that this concept seeks to divide powers, avoid jurisdiction over land, and torpedo the idea of general political and national elections for an elected Palestinian assembly.

The Palestinian letter explained that just as there is a separation of spheres, there is also a separation of central authority, which Israel is aiming at through elections. This constitutes a deviation from the peace process terms of reference. Consequently, that cannot be accepted under any circumstances.

As for the U.S. document, 'Urayqat said that once again we refused to deal with it or to consider it as a basis. He added that in the three meetings we insisted on discussing the issues of Jerusalem and jurisdiction over land, and this is what happened.

'Urayqat summed up those meetings by saying that the U.S. side did not bring anything new but continued its pro-Israeli bias and its disavowal of even the U.S. positions proclaimed since 1967. Urayqat described the Palestinian position in those meetings as firm.

### Supports Discussion of Final Status

*TA1507204193 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Report on interview with Sa'ib 'Urayqat, delegate to the peace talks, by Gil Sadan; place and date not given—passages within quotation marks recorded in English]

[Text] The discussions between Jordan and the Palestinians to establish a confederation are at a high gear. The Palestinian delegation for the peace negotiations has started manning the six joint subcommittees. Delegation head Faysal al-Husayni has extended his stay in Amman to discuss this issue. Our correspondent has learned that in their discussions with Dennis Ross, the Palestinians suggested holding negotiations with Israel on the permanent arrangements, instead of the interim arrangements, and that a confederation be viewed as a basis for these negotiations. Our correspondent Gil Sadan reports:

Approximately three months ago, Shim'on Peres suggested to the cabinet that we stop dealing with the interim arrangements and begin negotiating the permanent arrangements with the Palestinians. During Dennis Ross' tour in the region last week, the Palestinians pulled this idea out of a drawer and presented it as an issue for discussion.

['Urayqat] "I would not say deadlock, but after 20 months of extensive negotiations, maybe now the peace process has reached a point where the moment of truth is really facing each delegation. And the question is: Have we, in 20 months, proved to each other that the concept of interim period is not workable, not do-able, that it could complicate matters more than the complication of today. And maybe is it time to really see the possibility of going directly toward the final status. These are questions. These are questions that we are seriously thinking about."

[Sadan] In Jordan, the joint Jordanian-PLO political committee met last week and decided to revive the notion of a confederation between Jordan and an autonomous Palestinian entity. There will be three levels of cooperation between the parties: One, through the leaders Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn; two, through a ministerial committee of 10 persons; three, through the delegations to the negotiations.

['Urayqat] "Well, a confederation is one of the options, the serious options, for the final status. We are pursuing it, as Palestinians, with the Jordanians now. But it does not take us alone—us and the Jordanians—because it has to take the Israeli component in it. But it is a serious option, yes."

[Sadan] "But isn't it introducing the Palestinian state through the back door? In other words saying: we have a confederation, then the next day we will have some kind of a separate Palestinian entity?"

['Urayqat] "No, confederation actually will happen the opposite way—between two entities. But once you have a confederation, you do not have two separate states, you have a confederation. Yes, you preserve your identity; you preserve your own parliament; you preserve your certain contacts in terms of commercial, foreign policy, and so on—but there are issues like security and major foreign policies that are dealt with on a bilateral basis or a trilateral basis in those entities, but are confederated."

[Sadan] As for the reactions in Israel: Gad-Ben Ari, prime minister's media adviser, said that Israel is committed to the Madrid framework and that there is no room for change. Even circles that support the idea of holding early discussions on the permanent arrangements have stressed that Israel will not give up on the transitional period. At the same time, they believe that it would be easier to agree on the interim arrangements if an agreement on the permanent arrangement is reached.

### Comments on Confederation

*NC1507210593 Paris AFP in English 2033 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Jerusalem, July 15 (AFP)—A senior Palestinian peace negotiator said on Thursday [15 July] that a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation was a "serious option" for the final status of the Israeli-occupied territories.

Sa'ib 'Urayqat, the deputy head of the Palestinian peace team, told AFP that "the issue of an interim arrangement is not workable."

"It is necessary to think seriously about the final status of the occupied territories," he said, adding that a confederation was a "serious option."

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres proposed on Thursday, according to his deputy Yosi Beilin, that Israel launch a dialogue with the Palestinians on the possibility of a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has rejected any discussions on the final status of the occupied territories before the third year of self-rule.

### 'Ashrawi Comments on Peres' Confederation Proposal

*JN1507185093 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1710 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] In view of the dilemma the Israeli-Arab bilateral talks face, Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres has suggested that Israel initiate a dialogue with the Palestinians on the idea of establishing a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation.

In reply to a question by our radio on the meaning of the Israeli foreign minister's proposal, Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation, said that the Israelis believe that any agreement on a confederation between the Palestinians and Jordan will reassure Israel concerning the long-term dimension, will make it more flexible in the discussion of the phased issues, and will encourage it to to enter into the negotiations for a final solution.

### Affirms Stance on Jerusalem

*TA1607132393 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 16 Jul 93 pp 1, 19*

[Excerpts] Jerusalem—Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, the Palestinian negotiating delegation's spokesperson, has stressed there is no possibility that the Palestinians will accept any sort of compromise solution on Jerusalem, the settlements, and geographic jurisdiction. She said that the Palestinian position on these issues is firm and will not change.

Dr. 'Ashrawi denied that the Palestinian delegation had submitted to U.S. envoy Dennis Ross a Palestinian concept for a new draft declaration of principles. She said: "The fact is that we presented a new formulation of our firm position on Jerusalem, geographic jurisdiction, and the settlements."

The Palestinian spokesperson emphasized that there was no justification for the optimism expressed by Dennis Ross at the end of his shuttle tour, because the gap between the Israeli and Palestinian sides is very wide. [passage omitted]

The Palestinian negotiating delegation's media spokesperson criticized the Gulf states for linking aid to the Palestinians with the current political process. She said: "They are blackmailing us, just like Israel."

She added: "Before the 9th round, they pledged to pay $14 million if the Palestinians agreed to participate in that round. When we did so, the Gulf states backed off from their pledges. Later they said that they would provide aid through the occupied territories' institutions, but they broke their promises once again. Now they have set new conditions for giving some funds, namely, the Palestinians' consent to early empowerment in the occupied territories before agreements are reached. This is the same as the U.S. viewpoint."

Dr. 'Ashrawi stressed that the Palestinian people reject blackmail regardless of its source. She said: "We refuse to be the civil servants of the occupation. Therefore, we reject the concept of early empowerment."

### Fatah's al-Hasan Rejects Amendment to U.S. Document

*JN1607073293 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 16 Jul 93 p 18*

[By Riyad Mansur]

[Text] Amman—A prominent member of the Fatah Movement has strongly rejected any amendment to the U.S. document presented by the U.S. Administration to the Palestinian and Israeli sides. The prominent Fatah member noted that any amendment to the document is illegitimate. In a statement to SAWT AL-SHA'B a few minutes before leaving Amman yesterday, Hani al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, said: We, in the Central Committee, will not go back on our stand vis-a-vis this document, no matter what the reasons are.

Al-Hasan said: There is no benefit from going to the next round of talks. He called for dropping the U.S. invitation and for holding new negotiations based on international legitimacy. Hani al-Hasan said that the U.S. Administration is trying, together with the Israelis, to redivide Palestinian territory, noting that not a single Palestinian agrees with this.

Hani al-Hasan said that, through its constant bias toward Israel, America will push the Palestinians onto another road that might move the crisis to the top of events in the region. He said: We are going to the meetings of the Fatah Central Committee to reaffirm our rejection of the U.S. document.

### PLO Team Leaves Cairo for Tunis; Sha'th Comments

*NC1607134793 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1317 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jul (MENA)—A Palestinian delegation including Dr. Nabil Sha'th, political adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, and Hani al-Hasan, PLO Executive Committee member, left Cairo today for

Tunis to participate in the meetings of the Fatah Central Committee and Revolutionary Council that are scheduled to begin in Tunis this evening.

In a predeparture statement, Dr. Sha'th said the delegates will discuss developments in the occupied territories, Israeli practices against the Palestinian people, the latest developments in the peace process, and the outcome of the tour by Dennis Ross, U.S. general coordinator on the peace negotiations. Ross was advised of the Palestinian position, which demands that the U.S. document be amended. Dr. Sha'th said: We hope U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher will visit the region in the next few days with a new U.S. document that takes into consideration the Palestinian rights.

He stressed the need to convene a meeting of the cordon states foreign ministers for consultation and coordination before Christopher's tour of the region.

Dr. Sha'th said the recent uproar over negotiations between Israeli officials and PLO members was created by the Israelis, noting that they rescinded the law banning such meetings. The Israelis say Israeli officials and PLO members meet, but do not negotiate, but this, Dr. Shath said, is tantamount to recognition of the PLO.

### PLO Official Accuses Ross of Pro-Israel Stance

*TA1607093393 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, one of the PLO's leaders, accuses U.S. envoy Dennis Ross of espousing clear pro-Israeli positions. In an interview with AL-ITTIHAD, the mouthpiece of RAKAH [New Communist Party], 'Abd-Rabbuh says that Dennis Ross implicitly threatened the Palestinians that the Arab countries will withhold aid from them if they do not change their positions.

Our correspondent Yo'el Dar points out that 'Abd-Rabbuh played down the significance of the meetings with Israeli representatives, saying they actually were abortive attempts to hold such meetings.

### Four Factions Discuss 'Dangers' of U.S. Paper

*JN1507184393 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] The political bureaus of the four democratic factions within the PLO held an extraordinary meeting in which they discussed the latest political developments and the dangers posed by dealing with the proposed U.S. paper.

The joint central expanded meeting also evaluated the initial results of the comprehensive national dialogue initiative aimed at stopping the downfall, restoring the prestige to our arena and national movement, and preserving and unifying this movement.

At the end of their meeting, the bureaus issued a political statement in which they said that the four democratic factions are astonished by the continued unilateral and irresponsible policy of the influential leadership [of the PLO], which now aims to circumvent the comprehensive national dialogue, to mix the cards, and to create a foggy political situation that covers the series of free concessions, dangers of which are now very clear to our people.

The four democratic factions urged the influential leadership to respond to the comprehensive popular desire to stop this destructive march and to suspend the bilateral and multilateral negotiations. They also called for intensifying the struggle within the 10 factions [opposed to Arab-Israeli peace talks] throughout our national arena in order to preserve the heroic initifadah and develop and escalate it and to abort the conspiracy of administrative self-rule and liquidation plans.

At the end of their political statement, the four democratic factions—which are the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestine Liberation Front, and the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front—called on the masses of our people and nation to be alert to the dangers of what is going on in the multilateral negotiations.

### DFLP Leader: Ross Tour Designed To Divide Ranks

*JN1507163393 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 15 Jul 93 p 15*

[By Riyad Mansur]

[Text] Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], has said that the tour of the region by Dennis Ross, U.S. special coordinator for the peace talks, was designed to tear apart the unity of the Palestinian ranks, create problems in the Arab ranks, and weaken the unanimous rejection of the U.S. document.

Hawatimah said he hopes the U.S. envoy will fail in peddling the Israeli-U.S. plan, which ignores the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people.

He said that it is time to hold negotiations within the framework of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 in order to get the bilateral and multilateral negotiantions on the right track. He also noted that the preconditions for the Madrid conference can still be changed.

Responding to a question, Hawatimah said that the differences bewteen the Palestinian factions are old. He explained that the only road to national unity is to reach a joint program based on everyone's return to the resolutions of the PLO's legitimate institutions.

Hawatimah called on Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat to suspend the Palestinian-Israeli track of the bilateral

and multilateral negotiations so that such a stand can be the basis for a comprehensive national dialogue. He also called on 'Arafat to reconstruct the negotiating process on the basis of the resolutions of international legitimacy.

He added: We in the DFLP clearly distinguish between the peace process and the negotiating process. The peace process is a long process that we advocate and insist on. Therefore, we demand that the Madrid formula be overstepped and reconstructed on the bases for which the Arab delegations attended the negotiations.

He affirmed that President 'Arafat is complaining about what is happening to the negotiations due to the unjust Madrid forumla. He called for the transformation of this complaint into a practical step toward suspending the negotiations and starting a comprehensive Palestinian dialogue.

Asked about efforts by the Fatah Movement to hold a comprehensive national dialogue, Hawatimah said: We still insist on a suspension of the negotiations because this would represent a national response and would open the doors for national unity. He noted that the united leadership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] and the DFLP told Fatah that the dialogue must be comprehensive from the begining and must be held in one stage between the Palestinians inside and outside the occupied territories and between the factions within the PLO and the ones outside it.

The DFLP secretary general said that the Fatah delegation is not willing to discuss the suspension of the negotiations. He added that the Fatah delegation rejects a comprehensive dialogue among the Palestinian factions, noting that it only wants a dialogue with the factions within the PLO.

Hawatimah accused some within the PLO of rejecting dialogue with the Palestinian forces, noting that these people are holding talks with the U.S. and Israeli administrations and are placing obstacles to a comprehensive national dialogue.

He called on the Palestnian factions inside and outside the PLO, the national, spiritual, and religious figures, and the Palestinian people to focus on demanding national unity because it is the only way to save our revolution and our people from the scheme aimed at ending the PLO.

## Negotiators Criticized for Discussing U.S. Proposal

*TA1507210093 Jerusalem AL-TALI'AH in Arabic 15 Jul 93 p 3*

[Article by editor in chief Bashir al-Barghuthi: "Without Prejudice"]

[Excerpts] After the Americans presented their draft declaration of principles on 12 May, the Palestinian side rejected that draft and refused to consider it as a basis for negotiations. It was right in doing so. It was also right in rejecting the second draft, presented on 30 June, for the same reasons.

Surprisingly, despite sound reasons for not accepting the drafts—that they contravene the terms of reference or that they adopt the Israeli viewpoint regarding sovereignty, jurisdiction, and Jerusalem—this side began dealing with the problem by presenting formulations aimed at introducing modifications. Regardless of whether those formulations are sound or not, the Palestinian side, by submitting new formulations about some of the draft's points, has accepted the draft as a general framework for negotiating. Continued media statements about not accepting the draft cannot change this fact.

We do not believe that any of the participants who presented those formulations is unaware that they will be amended and refined by the U.S. and Israeli sides, which know that those formulations are an initial negotiating stance, leading to "give and take" and to retreating toward a position or positions that are closer to the other party's, especially when the latter is supported by the peace conference's sponsor.

Warren Christopher is expected to visit the region shortly carrying a new "draft declaration of principles." We do not wish to preempt events by saying that this draft will be much less than what the Palestinian negotiating side hopes, but it will definitely be less than the formulations submitted by this side to Ross. [passage omitted]

The U.S. drafts give Resolution 242 the role of "false witness" in a negotiating process not conducted on the basis of that resolution or aimed at implementing it. Regrettably, the Palestinian side agreed to enter into this process by submitting formulations and modifications despite its refusal to do so only days before the U.S. envoy's arrival in Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

## PFLP-GC: Jibril 'Not Scared' by Israeli Threats

*NC1407204193 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Jul 93*

[Text] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command has issued a statement saying that Ahmad Jibril's visit to Lebanon was dictated by the duties of holy jihad against the Zionist enemy that is occupying Palestine, south Lebanon, and the Golan, and that this is neither the first nor the last visit.

Regarding the threats made by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres against the PFLP-GC secretary general, the statement added that these threats do not scare him.

## Egypt

### Al-Baz Denies 'Tension' in Relations With U.S.

*NC1507211693 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Dr. Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, held a news conference tonight.

Commenting on the Middle East peace process, Dr. al-Baz voiced the hope that the talks held by Dennis Ross, U.S. special envoy for the parties concerned with the Middle East peace talks, would lead to progress in the peace process and to the signing of a declaration of principles among the concerned parties that would be the harbinger of peace and stability in the region.

Dr. al-Baz also expressed hopes for similar progress in the multilateral talks, especially those concerning arms limitation and the mechanism needed to achieve it.

Commenting on Egyptian-U.S. relations, Dr. al-Baz denied reports of any tension. He said there is harmony in U.S.-Egyptian relations. The two countries, he added, differ in the way they view some issues, but this does not affect the strong ties between them. The two countries are holding consultations on the peace process as well as on cooperation, he pointed out.

Dr. al-Baz commented on the situation in Somalia, saying the UN forces are playing a role in achieving peace and security there. Egypt, he added, participates in these forces because of its commitment to peace and security in Africa.

The United States, al-Baz said, continues to play the part of a full partner in the negotiations, while the EC plays a supporting role. Al-Baz said Egypt plays a major role in furthering the peace process.

Dr. al-Baz commented on the Egyptian internal situation. He said the government and people have joined forces to stamp out terrorism. The United Nations is playing an important role and we should allow some time to pass before assessing this role. [sentence as heard]

On Bosnia, Dr. al-Baz called on the international community to stop the tragedy.

As for Egyptian-Sudanese relations, al-Baz said the Egyptians and Sudanese are twin nations and relations between them should be maintained. He said the common interests they share call for strong ties between them. He expressed the hope that the summit meeting between President Husni Mubarak and 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolutionary Command Council for National Salvation, would be the first step toward establishing good bilateral ties.

### AL-AHRAM Warns Arabs Not To Withdraw From Talks

*NC1607093393 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0626 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jul (MENA)—AL-AHRAM has warned the Arab parties, especially the Palestinian side, against withdrawing from the peace negotiations with Israel. In a comment today, the newspaper said that although Israel has so far been adamant in blocking progress in the negotiations, this does not justify the creation of reasons for some voices in the Palestinian arena to return to the policy of one-upmanship and demand withdrawal from the negotiations. Such a move represents a retreat from the realistic and logical policies that earned the question of Palestine many supporters and friends.

AL-AHRAM affirmed the importance of the positive Syrian position in the peace process, which crystallized clearly after the recent summit between President Husni Mubarak and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Latakia. During this summit, Syria affirmed the importance of continuing the negotiation's move forward to realize a just peace.

The newspaper expressed its belief that Israel will in the final analysis be forced to cooperate with international desires, which support the move to peace, because the realities of today's world do not permit the continuation of such destructive conflicts.

### Magazine Details Upcoming Agreement With IMF

*NC1507201393 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1043 GMT 14 Jul 93*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jul (MENA)—The weekly magazine AL-MUSAWWAR reports in its 16 July edition that Egypt and the IMF agreed in recent talks on final solutions to formerly unresolved issues between them, including the letter of intent that is due to be signed by the two sides on 18 July.

The magazine explains that the agreement provides for reducing the Egyptian budget deficit from the current 3.5 percent to 2.6 percent, representing a saving of 2.1 billion pounds.

AL-MUSAWWAR cites an Egyptian official's statement that the budget will be reduced without the need to impose new burdens on the public, thanks to noticeably higher revenues from the Suez Canal and oil sales, the proceeds from state land sales, and the continuing improvement in tax collection.

The agreement calls for specific steps including the development of the banking apparatus in line with Basel's international regulations, which provide for allotting a specific reserve of bank profits to shoulder debt requirements.

The source added that a study of the Egyptian banking system carried out by the IMF shows Egyptian banks are making high profits, which enable them to absorb possible losses resulting from bad and potentially bad debts. The study also shows that the regulations followed by Egyptian banks are very similar to Basel's international regulations.

AL-MUSAWWAR adds that Egypt and the IMF also agreed that Egypt will draw up a timetable to improve the performance of the business sector by studying the conditions of faltering companies, improving their financial structure, and transferring ownership to the public to use the proceeds from such sales to pay off the public sector's debts to the banks.

The source explained that the agreement does not call for a definite commitment to sell off a specific number of public sector companies or a specific percentage of their value. He said this issue is left to the Egyptian Government, which will set out a program for such sales in a way that is appropriate to market conditions to protect the values of these companies.

Noting that the nominal value of the public sector's companies is approximately 70 billion pounds with a current market value of 150 billion pounds, the Egyptian source said the country expects—due to numerous circumstances—to be able to sell off or transfer to the public the ownership of companies worth 3 billion pounds at most next year.

The magazine says Egypt and the IMF also agreed to work to modernize government administration through strict control and to follow up standards so that the government apparatus will not be crippled and confused, leading to inaction and hesitant decisions.

The two sides agreed to lower the ceiling of the customs tariff to 80 percent at the highest, except for alcoholic beverages, the tariff on which will remain at about 3,000 percent.

The official source stressed that the agreement will enable Egypt to protect its national production and, at the same time, will limit demand for some private commodities, such as big passenger vehicles, the import of which will be free but with the addition of new local fees to cover the deficit that may occur by reducing the customs from 60 percent to 80 percent [figures as received].

The source pointed out that the agreement between Egypt and the IMF does not include any clauses fixing fees or customs on the use of water for irrigation purposes, as many people had expected.

AL-MUSAWWAR explains that after Egypt signs the letter of intent on Sunday [18 July], the IMF mission will present the agreement and the letter of intent to the IMF board of directors in a meeting that may take place in October. When the IMF approves the agreement, the procedure for reducing the second part of Egypt's debt, estimated at 4,300 million pounds, will begin.

The official source stressed that the approval of the IMF Board of Directors means Egypt will not need to return to the Paris Club, because the IMF is fully authorized to reduce the debt as soon as an agreement with Egypt is announced.

## Minister Discusses Discovery of 'New Criminal Cells'

*NC1507170693 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Jul (MENA)—Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi has announced that the security forces have uncovered new criminal cells that were planning to undermine security and attack tourists. He said they have arrested a group of terrorists who played a role in recent terrorist attacks.

In an interview with today's edition of the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-SIYASAH, the interior minister said he hopes terrorism will soon be destroyed, describing it as a phenomenon "foreign" to our Islamic societies.

He said the recent attacks on the country's security, stability, and tourism serve the interests of some quarters. Noting that the country's tourism revenue amounted to $3 billion last year, he suggested it could be this success that provoked an attempt to undermine it.

On reports about the involvement of the Israeli intelligence service "Mosad" in recent terrorist attacks and bombings in Egypt, al-Alfi said: "We cannot make a specific accusation against any party or any individuals without proof. We will make the facts public as soon as we learn them."

Answering another question, he said: "The way Islam is being preached in some Islamic countries is very dangerous and does not represent Islam. Indeed, it aims to undermine Islam, because events are actually anti-Islamic."

Al-Alfi said it is clear Egypt promotes religion, encourages the building of mosques, and is the home to al-Azhar, the largest Islamic university. He added: We worship with total freedom.

He explained that the Egyptian Constitution states Islam is the chief source of legislation and said shari'ah is implemented in 95 percent of cases.

Concluding his remarks, the Egyptian interior minister said security in Egypt is "reassuring," pointing out that the greatest proof of this is the convening of the OAU summit in Cairo in late June, which was attended by 25 heads of state, 15 heads of government, and many important personalities and journalists.

Al-Alfi announced the situation is now under the security forces' control.

### Interior Ministry Source on Attack on Police in Aswan

*NC1507213693 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2126 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jul (MENA)—An official Interior Ministry source today denied a report by a foreign news agency that a police major general came under gunfire while driving his car.

The source said two unidentified assailants cut off the road in front of a police car on patrol duty this afternoon on the Kurnish Aswan road today. One of the assailants shot at the car with an automatic rifle, hitting it in the front and on the right side. No one was hurt in the incident.

The source said the police cordoned off the area and are looking for the assailants.

## Libya

### Foreign Secretary Receives Zairian Delegation 14 Jul

*LD1507190293 Tripoli JANA in English 1832 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Tripoli, Nasser [July] 15, Jamahiriyah News Agency—The secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation Bureau held a meeting yesterday with Diong Omana, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the Zairean parliament, and the accompanying delegation who are currently visiting the Great Jamahiriyah.

The chairman of the Zairean parliament committee offered during the meeting an [word indistinct] briefing about the events taking place in Zaire as a result of the interference of western countries which act constantly to stir troubles and provoke distrubances in the African continent to destabilize the African countries with the aim of preparing the ground for seizing their wealth.

He revealed that the Zairean people have recently became aware of this conspiracy and that they are presently acting towards the development and strengthening of cooperative relations with the African brothers with the aim of harmonizing the efforts and uniting the actions towards the freedom of the continent and the abolition of poverty, diseases and illiteracy.

The meeting also reviewed the prospects of cooperation between the Great Jamahiriyah and Zaire in various areas.

## Western Sahara

### Polisario, Morocco To Meet in Laayoune 16 Jul

*LD1507231093 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Excerpts] For the first time since the eruption of the conflict in Western Sahara more than 18 years ago, direct talks will be held in Laayoune tomorrow between Polisario [Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hamra and Rio de Oro] representatives and Morocco. The meeting, which was due to be held today, was postponed untill tomorrow, Friday, and it will be held following the UN secretary general's request. More details from Nabila Khrayfia:

[Khrayfia] The meeting, which has been described by a number of political circles as decisive, will try to find a compromise for the ongoing dispute between Morocco and the Polisario on the electoral rolls which would lead to the holding of a referendum for self-determination for the Saharan people. [passage omitted] Thus, the Saharan-Moroccan talks will be held in Laayoune City, the capital of Western Sahara, under UN aegis. For this reason, Yaqub Khan, the special representative of the UN secretary general in charge of the Western Saharan problem, arrived in Laayoune city today. The chairman of the UN commission on the electoral rolls in Western Sahara, who announced that the membership of the Saharan and the Moroccan delegations as well as the agenda of the meeting will be determined jointly by the Polisario and Morocco, is also there. The UN Representative asserted, furthermore, that the United Nations intends to play an effective role in the talks. Although members of the Moroccan delegation are still to be made public; sources in Laayoune city have announced that the Saharan delegation will be led by Omar Mansour, the Polisario representative in Europe. [passage omitted]

### Polisario: Saharan Chiefs Not Going

*LD1507125493 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Jul 92*

[Excerpt] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hamra and Rio de Oro [Polisario] has clarified its representation in tomorrow's meeting in the Western Saharan capital. The Polisario delegation will not include Western Saharan chieftains, contrary to news agency and other media reports. More details in this report from Ahmed Khida:

[Khida] Tomorrow's meeting in the Western Saharan capital of Laayoune will include representatives from the Polisario Front and Morocco, but not Saharan chieftains and dignitaries, says a Saharan Information Ministry communique. The communique says that the Saharan delegation will arrive in Laayoune tomorrow afternoon on board a UN plane, and that it will not include any chieftains. According to the same communique, the Polisario delegation is to hold talks over three days with the Kingdom of Morocco's UN ambassador in his capacity as King Hassan's plenipotentiary. [passage omitted]

## Kuwait

### Official Expresses Wariness About Israeli Relations

*JN1607090993 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 7 Jul 93 p 1*

[By 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Yazaruglu]

[Text] Kuwait, July 6: The rapporteur of the Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee has expressed extreme regret that the process is under way to establish a relationship with Israel.

"But if there is any collective move among the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] and Arab world, we might be willing to consider it so far as it does not contradict with our religious and traditional values," said Dr. Nasir al-Sani.

"We were the formost Arab country to oppose any such kind of tendency in the past, as U.S. State Department records will attest. It is not acceptable at all religiously, traditionally and culturally."

"Again, we have not been informed at all by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs about what is going on about this important subject. We understand that there is a great and heavy pressure from the U.S.A. and Western countries on Arab countries to establish relations with Israel."

"They have very strong lobbies to exert pressure on Arab countries... of course, this is their job to lobby for it, but we should not be a model in the Arab world to establish such a kind of relationship, and we should resist ... we are absolutely against it if there is a single initiative exerted by Kuwait on the matter."

Speaking exclusively to the ARAB TIMES on 'dangerous and important documents connected with a very heated issue, he said the documents, of a sensitive and 'very heated issue,' had passed illegally into the hands of a front outside the country from an official source in Kuwait, and concerned the oil tanker issue. [punctuation as published]

He said he could not divulge details on the name of the office which had leaked the important documents, and also did not reveal the name of the front or country. Dr. al-Sani said, however, that he would reveal all details of the dangerous incident very soon. In a previous statement, he had hinted strongly that he had strong evidence of the incident and that he was well aware of the front that had received those documents.

Dr. al-Sani also said that in an interview published recently, he had not spoken alone with H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister as the story stated, but with a group of people.

He clarified, "We talked with him as a group of MP's from the National Assembly two weeks after the elections, and also after three months for the second time."

### Western Coalition Said Benefiting From Gulf Tension

*JN1507180493 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 10 Jul 93 p 32*

[Article by Dr. 'Abdallah Fahd al-Nafisi: "Under the Microscope"]

[Text] Kuwait was occupied almost three years ago. Now that Kuwait is a free country, and that the resources of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] member states have been depleted by U.S. arms deals, which will certainly bring us neither security nor stability, what can we conclude from all this?

First, concern and tension have continued to plague the Gulf region. In the aftermath of the liberation of Kuwait, the U.S.-led Western coalition has failed to bring about the desired security and stability in the region. There are some people who believe that the United States, along with the Western coalition it is leading, are making massive gains from the tension prevailing in the region. This is thanks to the arms sales they are making and the oil prices they have managed to control to promote Western interests, regardless of the requirements of development in the Gulf states. It follows from this that maintaining tension and exacerbating fears in the region will undoubtedly serve the interests of both the United States and the Western coalition.

Second, the survival of the Iraqi leadership and its failure to change its policies toward the overall situation in the Gulf region either show that this leadership is more powerful that we earlier thought, or that the United States is weaker than we think. Another possibility is that the United States does not want, for the time being, for its own purposes and considerations, to effect a change in Iraq. Regardless of the arguments or counterarguments that could be advanced in this regard, the survival of the Iraqi regime and its failure to change its policies toward the overall Gulf situation, by themselves, constitute a psychological and financial depletion of GCC resources. It is only the United States and Israel that stand to benefit from this depletion of resources. As for Israel, it has managed to twist the arms of the GCC member states, which have begun to seriously consider the normalization of ties with Israel.

## Qatar

### Editorial Warns Against Confederation Proposal

*JN1607115193 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Manama, 16 Jul (WAK)—In its editorial today, the Qatari newspaper AL-'ARAB warned against Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' proposal to embark on dialogue with the Palestinians in order to discuss the idea of establishing a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation.

The paper says: The Israeli proposal is a new attempt to jump over facts and to ignore real problems by proposing illogical alternatives that cannot achieve peace. The ultimate objective, the paper adds, is to torpedo the peace process.

AL-'ARAB notes that a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation is, ultimately, a Jordanian-Palestinian option that should be based on clear fundamentals in terms of equality. This, the paper adds, cannot be achieved before establishing an independent Palestinian state which will have the powers to proceed with such a plan.

The Qatari paper says initiatives that save, not distort, the peace process are required. Israel is undermining the peace process which will collapse if the United States does not take the initiative to save this process by pressuring Israel.

AL-'ARAB says: U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher should bring to the region, in his coming tour, clear proposals. The previous visits to the region by U.S. officials helped in forming a clear viewpoint. Now, real steps are needed to achieve peace and to stop making calls which achieved nothing in the past.

## Saudi Arabia

### Egyptian Paper Reports Ban on Employment of Hindus

*LD1507163093 Tehran IRNA in English 0833 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Tehran, July 15, IRNA—The Saudi Government recently issued instructions banning the employment of Hindus in the Kingdom, Egyptian Islamic newspaper AL-NUR reported. The move follows appeals by the ulema to prohibit the employment of Hindus in the wake of the destruction of the historical Babri Mosque and massacre of Muslims in India.

The ulema said that Hindus were living under the shelter of Islam, earning their money in Muslim countries and then using it against Islam and to attack Muslims and Islamic sites in their country.

Henceforth only Muslims and Christians from India would be employed. Big construction firms in Saudi Arabia have already started implementing the new instruction, the paper said.

An estimated two million Hindus are working in the Persian Gulf Arab states.

## Yemen

### President on Corruption, Relations With Kuwait

*JN1607060993 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1719 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Interview with 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, published in the SAWT AL-'UMMAL newspaper in Aden on 15 July; from the "News Follow-Ups" program]

[Excerpts] [SAWT AL-'UMMAL] Brother President: What are the most important lessons drawn from the transitional period?

[Salih] The lessons we learned from the transitional period are numerous and useful for anyone who seeks to make use of them. As for those who do not want to learn any lessons, they will not draw any lessons from them. As a matter of fact, the transitional period was accompanied by numerous negative aspects. This is because two separate international entities, that is, two halves of a country, were merged into a single international entity and a single structure. When we signed the merger agreement, we expected that some negative phenomena were bound to surface. However, the negative phenomena seen during the transitional period exceeded our expectations. There were negative manifestations [words indistinct] foremost among these manifestations were passivity and apportioning blame by various parties, even though the parties apportioning blame were involved in the pivotal activities of the state agencies. It must be said that some parties shirked their responsibilities. Many negative phenomena were visible in the economic, administrative, and security fields. Financial and administrative [words indistinct] took place. Besides, financial and administrative corruption expanded. The transitional period seemed a period for vengeance, in which some people abused public funds and harmed the people. [Words indistinct] public funds. Many state institutions and agencies experienced a dereliction of duty. This is a regrettable development that will not be allowed to continue. We must bring all this to an end. The leadership and the government will shoulder their national responsibilities to correct all these excesses and problems. Undoubtedly, the lessons drawn from this period will be learned. This does not mean that we will forget about the excesses made in this regard. Those who abused or tampered with public funds must, some day, be taken to task, regardless of the posts that they could be holding. [passage omitted]

[SAWT AL-'UMMAL] How do you evaluate the Kuwaiti parliamentary and press campaign against the Yemeni authorities?

[Salih] In the aftermath of the successful elections held in Yemen and the formation of the new government, we in Yemen reiterated the call for turning a new page in the ties with fraternal countries, particularly in the Arabian

Peninsula and the Arabian Gulf, to remove the misunderstanding caused by the Gulf crisis. In a press interview I granted to a Kuwaiti newspaper, and a statement by the foreign minister, Yemen's position and views toward the Gulf crisis were stated. This position was a principled one, aimed at averting war and resolving the crisis within an Arab context. We have attempted to explain this anew to the Kuwaiti and Gulf public in particular, and to the Arab public in general. Some Kuwaiti newspapers have responded positively to this Yemeni endeavor, while other newspapers took a negative stand toward this endeavor. We in Yemen have never been, nor will we ever be dragged into any press vituperations. This is because such vituperations cannot promote Arab solidarity, nor can they, for that matter, promote the efforts to rehabilitate inter-Arab ties. As for the Yemeni way of thinking, it is not characterized by pessimism. Besides, Yemen does not allow itself to get engaged in the use of obscenities or in interference in the domestic affairs of other countries. At the same time, we reject interference in our domestic affairs, whether this interference is effected directly, or indirectly, and regardless of the level of such an interference. [passage omitted]

## Qatari Foreign Minister To Meet With Officials

*JN1507193593 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] His Excellency Shaykh Hamad Bin-Jasim Al Thani, foreign minister of the sisterly State of Qatar, will arrive in Sanaa tomorrow, Friday [16 July], on an official visit of several days to the Republic of Yemen, during which time he will meet with ranking officials dealing with bilateral relations.

In a statement to the Yemeni news agency, SARA', brother Foreign Minister Muhammad Salim Basindwah said the visit by His Excellency Shaykh Hamad Bin-Jasim Al Thani to our country will be a turning point in bilateral relations and a good chance to hold consultations on developing bilateral cooperation and coordination, and to discuss issues of mutual concern.

The foreign minister said the exchange of visits between Yemeni officials and officials from the Gulf and Peninsula states will help realize rapprochement and consolidate understanding among the countries of the region in a manner that will serve their security and stability, as well as Arab solidarity.

## UAE President Accepts Invitation To Visit

*JN1507192593 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the Presidential Council chairman, received a message today from his brother His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], dealing with bilateral relations between the two fraternal states and viewpoints on the issues and developments of interest to the two countries and the Arab nation.

The message also includes the acceptance of an invitation extended to him to visit our country.

The message was delivered by brother Sayf Maktum al-Mansuri, the UAE ambassador in Sanaa, at a meeting with the brother president today.

## UN Special Commission Head Meets With Leadership

### Ekeus, al-Sahhaf Meet 15 Jul

*JN1507164193 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1607 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jul (INA)—Talks between Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf and UN Special Commission Chairman Rolf Ekeus began in Baghdad this evening. Ekeus arrived in Baghdad earlier today.

Commenting on Mr. Ekeus's mission to Iraq, Culture and Information Minister Hamid Yusuf Hammadi told INA: Our stand is that Iraq has fulfilled its obligations as stipulated in Resolution 687 and that the embargo has not been lifted because the quarters that hold sway over the UN Security Council and that influence the Special Commission, particularly the United States, prevent this. He added: This is the main problem.

Answering a question by INA on whether Ekeus's visit to Baghdad is meant for dialogue or is similar to [former UN Secretary General] Perez de Cuellar's visit to Baghdad shortly before the 30-state aggression, Hamid Yusuf Hammadi said that it is not clear at this time. When the recent problem arose, he added, U.S. officials went public about their plans to commit a new aggression against Iraq and its facilities. However, many quarters inside and outside the Security Council called for dialogue and a resolution of the dispute between Iraq and the Special Commission by peaceful means. Thus, it was decided that Ekeus should visit Baghdad.

INA commented: So it seems that Ekeus has come for dialogue.

The minister of culture and information replied: I said that this is not clear. Ekeus was the one who created this problem at a time when Iraq opened a dialogue with the United Nations, when Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz met with UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali. We said that raising the issue of the cameras was meant to disrupt this dialogue. Iraq has also asked for a comprehensive dialogue with the Security Council.

### Talks To Resume 'Tomorrow'

*JN1507200093 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1938 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jul (INA)—Official talks between Iraq and the UN Security Council Special Commission began at the Foreign Ministry secretariat at 1930 [1530 GMT] today.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf chaired the Iraqi delegation to the talks, and Rolf Ekeus chaired the Special Commission delegation.

The Iraqi delegation to the talks includes Humam 'Abd-al-Khaliq 'Abd-al-Ghafur, minister of higher education and scientific research; Lieutenant General 'Amir Muhammad Rashid, director of the Military Industries Organization; and Iraqi technicians.

INA has learned that this evening's talks, which lasted two and half hours were preliminary talks. It was decided to resume the talks tomorrow.

Following the talks, Rolf Ekeus told the press that it is too early to comment on what course the talks will take. He added: We will resume the talks tomorrow.

### Ekeus, 'Aziz Hold Talks

*JN1607101893 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jul (INA)—Iraq and the UN Special Commission resumed their talks at the Foreign Ministry at 1030 today.

The Iraqi side was led by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister. The UN Special Commission delegation was headed by its chairman Rolf Ekeus.

Following the session of talks, Tariq 'Aziz made the following statement to INA:

Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf last night held a round of talks with Mr. Ekeus and his delegation. Today, we held further talks and will resume the talks this evening.

The deputy prime minister added: It is too early to comment on the nature and outcome of the talks.

UN Special Commission Chairman Rolf Ekeus told INA that they will continue to hold talks and that he has nothing to say at the moment. He added that another session of talks will be held this evening.

INA has learned that the second session of talks, which was held this morning, lasted for two hours and 45 minutes. The third session will be held at 1900 today.

## Ekeus, UN Said Circumventing Resolution 687

*JN1507174093 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers: Rolf Ekeus, chairman of the UN Special Commission, has arrived in Baghdad. Regardless of the results of the visit, we should make a few observations.

The chairman of the UN Special Commission has stated that the purpose of his visit to Baghdad is to hold discussions with the Iraqi leadership on Security Council Resolution 715 on long-term monitoring of some Iraqi sites and installations. Ekeus and the Security Council have thus circumvented Resolution 687 in an exposed attempt to distort facts and shirk the Security Council's responsibility toward Iraq under this resolution.

Iraq has fulfilled its obligations under Resolution 687, despite its unjust and unfair provisions, and dealt with this resolution positively, as well as with all other international resolutions. Resolution 687 imposed certain obligations on Iraq. It also stated that the embargo should be lifted once Iraq meets these obligations.

Iraq has indeed fulfilled its obligations, but the Security Council, tied to the will of the Americans and Zionists, did not pay any attention to Iraq's right to have the unjust embargo lifted. When Ekeus says that he came to Baghdad to discuss Resolution 715, then this is an implied recognition that Resolution 687 has been implemented by Iraq. Ekeus himself has so far refused to submit a report to the Security Council, explaining how much of Security Council Resolution 687 Iraq has implemented and, consequently, the United Nation's responsibility toward lifting the blockade.

Ekeus's visit to Baghdad also coincides with cheap threats by the U.S. Administration and the British ambassador to the United Nations, the Security Council's president for this month, who is carrying out Major's orders more than playing an honest role as the president of this international body. These hollow threats represent an exposed attempt to put pressure on Iraq. They also reflect the bankruptcy and despair of those who launch them when they see that all their cowardly attacks and malicious methods—the embargo and the attempts to interfere in Iraq's domestic affairs—have failed and their sick objectives are defeated. This is due to Iraq's steadfastness, greatness, creative reconstruction drive, resistance against the blockade, and preservation of its struggle by firmly opposing American and Zionist aggression and all evil schemes targeting our nation and its causes. Thanks to its steadfastness, Iraq has managed to defeat these schemes and emerge victorious over all forces of evil. All events since the treacherous 30-state aggression have proven that Iraq will remain a rock on which all enemy plots and vindictive policies will be wrecked, after the policy of double standards—designed to help Zionism and its objectives at the expense of our glorious nation—has been exposed.

## 'Hope' Expressed for Ekeus' Impartiality

*JN1507172793 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jul (INA)—The political editor of the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY has criticized the allegations made by certain parties in the Security Council that 5 percent of the Iraqi commitments, as outlined in Resolution 687, have not yet been met.

The political editor of the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY said these allegations are foolish and irresponsible.

He stressed that making such statements and timing them with the visit of Rolf Ekeus to Iraq is an attempt to evade the Security Council's commitment to lift the siege imposed on Iraq and to continue this siege for well-known political reasons.

The editor recalled that Iraq has responded to all paragraphs of Security Council Resolution 687 and committed itself to them regardless of their legitimacy. He said Iraq has implemented what it was asked to in accordance with that resolution—which embodied the ultimate of oppression and injustice. What is now required is for the Security Council to immediately lift the siege imposed on the people of Iraq if the Council really respects human rights.

The editor expressed the hope that Ekeus will not be too influenced by the suggestions of these parties, known for their intentions against Iraq, and that his dialogue with the Iraqis will be very frank so that he will not be labelled by history as a war criminal, but rather a peace advocate.

The political editor said he is confident the Iraqi side is willing to hold a dialogue with Ekeus if he submits new proposals and ideas to overcome the differences that were fabricated by known quarters. The editor added: We will not, however, give up our people's rights and future in the interest of Zionism and the despots who are allied with it.

The INA editor added: The Arab countries' stands and their use of double standards in the slogans they raise and promote completely expose them when faced with the fact that they have violated the Iraqi people's human rights.

The editor emphasized that the sons of Iraq, who are concerned for their history and their nation, the nation of civilization, ethics, and loftiness, do not fear the missiles and aircraft of the Americans and their allies as they experienced these threats and stood fast in the face of the wildest criminal acts.

## Editorial Stresses Right to Defensive Weapons

*JN1607090793 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jul (INA)—[Words indistinct] the twisted methods and [words indistinct] which the United States has excelled in fabricating.

In an editorial today, AL-'IRAQ says: [Words indistinct] the courage of a UN official and with the mind of an expert in armament who knows the difference between offensive and defensive weapons, can tackle the current situation between Iraq and the UN Security Council; a position turned by the United States into a stormy confrontation with Iraq under the pretext that it is not applying the clauses of Resolution 687.

The paper adds: If he wishes to be faithful to himself, the requirements of his international mission, and his professional convictions, Ekeus must clearly and unequivocally, and in no uncertain terms, state that Iraq is exercising its undisputed national right to possess defensive weapons allowed by the UN Security Council resolutions.

The paper says: We are in no doubt that Ekeus knows very well that Iraq has not violated the UN Security Council resolutions and has implemented in full the unfair Resolution 687, despite the injustice that resolution has inflicted on its people .

AL-'IRAQ adds: Even if we accept the biased and absurd interpretation given by the United States and the Western states that joined it in its aggression against our country, that Iraq has implemented 95 percent of the obligations, would it be logical for the United States to start beating the drums of war and setting the scene for a new aggression against Iraq?

The paper asserts that the Special Commission chairman will undoubtedly have to face a judgment by history. History will judge him favorably if he brings justice to the Iraqis, and history will write his name down in the list of war criminals if he avoids logic and right and sides with the tyrant of the age, the United States.

### Party Issues Statement on Revolution Anniversary

*JN1507202793*

[Editorial Report] Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic carries within its 1800 GMT newscast the 25-minute "text" of a statement issued by the National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party on the 25th anniversary of launching the 17-30 July revolution.

At the outset, the statement notes the revolution's "glorious march, principled stands, and victories," adding that every year rejuvenates and invigorates it. The statement says:

"In an age when many revolutions have grown old, many experiments retreated, leaders deviated from historic courses, and regimes and intellectual systems collapsed, the 17-30 July revolution has continued its national and pan-Arab role. Its humanitarian role is its noblest manifestation, waging its great confrontation against brute force in all its forms, all over the world—militarily, politically, and in the media."

The statement goes on to praise the revolution's "struggle position" and "great faith in the nation's bright future." The statement also praises the revolution's achievements, overcoming difficulties and achieving victories over enemies.

The statement reviews developments in the Arab world in the 60's and 70's and how the Arab order was led by "reactionaries, agents, and stooges" who turned the revolution's slogans into a cover for military defeat in 1967. It notes that the 17-30 July revolution was the "first principled attack on the reactionaries, thus causing the Arab political map to recover somewhat and restoring some cohesion to the Arab order."

The statement goes on to say that the revolution's faith in its pan-Arab plan of awakening and the emergence of Saddam Husayn alarmed the nation's enemies. Hence, the beginning of plots against Iraq. It notes how the revolution's command faced all "storms" and pursued its march, saying that it resolved the Kurdish question "peacefully and democratically" through the 11 March 1970 statement, materializing in the law on autonomy in 1974. This was followed by a law on cultural rights for minorities. The revolution also made a "historic decision" in 1972 on the nationalization of oil, restoring "the nation's right to its wealth," which was later used to achieve progress for Iraq. The statement also notes steps taken to promote education.

The statement adds that the revolution's command made a "unique democratic achievement" when it established the National Patriotic and Progressive Front in 1973, thus broadening the power base and causing pluralism to emerge. The statement also notes the revolution's care for the Armed Forces and military industrialization. It also elaborates on the revolution's theoretical and practical revolutionary ideological approach.

The statement refers to the bond between the 17-30 July revolution and the Palestine question, which is a "pivotal cause of Arab struggle." The revolution's command, the statement says, "has realized that the liberation of Palestine is a crucial link in the Arab struggle for liberation and a guarantee for the future revolutionary vanguard of this struggle."

Referring to the "Mother of Battles," the statement says that this battle opened a revolutionary horizon for the masses and created for them a struggle arena to express their nationalism. The "Zionist role" was also very clear, not only politically and in the media but by "escalating military aggression and driving the U.S. Administration to the most severe states of violence and crime." The statement notes that "economic plotting" was the share of the Kuwaiti regime, while "military aggression" was the share of the Zionist entity.

The statement argues that the revolution identified defects in other contemporary socialist experiments, and thus took a series of measures in agriculture, industry, trade, and services beginning in the 70's, helped by Saddam Husayn.

The statement adds that the Mother of Battles "revealed the intentions and plans of the U.S. unilateral grip on the world and exposed the double standards of the Western regimes, their intellectual confusion, defects, and political and media chicanery."

It further notes that the revolution has not changed its stand on all Arab and world issues. Hence, its rejection of all "suspect plans" regarding the Palestine question and the "genocide" practiced by the West in such cases as Bosnia-Herzegovina and Somalia.

The statement adds: "The Clinton administration's pursuance of the same approach of aggression adopted by the Bush administration gives conclusive evidence of the feeling of failure of the 30-state aggression in achieving

the aim of wiping out the revolution, killing its vigorous spirit, and severing the link between the glorious present and the future."

### Jordan's Crown Prince Cables Saddam on National Day

*JN1607083893 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 16 Jul 93 p 1*

[Text] Amman—PETRA—His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, has sent a cable to His Excellency Saddam Husayn, president of the sisterly Republic of Iraq, congratulating him—in his own name and on behalf of the people and Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan—on Iraq's national day and wishing him good health and happiness and the fraternal Iraqi people continuous progress and prosperity.

### Commentary: al-Asad Wants Agreement With 'Zionists'

*JN1607083593 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Richard Murphy, former U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle Eastern affairs, has disclosed that [Syrian President] Hafiz al-Asad has repeatedly expressed his dissatisfaction with the Palestinians and the other Arab negotiating delegations, because the negotiations, as he put it, have become tied up and linked to each other in a way that does not allow Syria to act without media clamor and to conclude a separate treaty with the Zionist entity.

According to Murphy, Hafiz al-Asad is in a hurry. He does not want to prolong the negotiations and wants to quickly conclude an agreement with the Zionist entity. Therefore, Hafiz al-Asad, having ironed out his differences with the Zionists, has begun to pressure the Palestinians to show more flexibility in the negotiations. Flexibility here concerns Jerusalem and the refugees' return to their homes.

Yes, Hafiz al-Asad, who is now urging flexibility and leniency, has become tolerant toward the Zionists and does not object to relinquishing Jerusalem and ignoring the international resolutions that concern the refugees.

Observers wonder about the reasons behind this tolerance and these flexible positions. They think they are closely linked to a domestic situation that faces a host of political, social, and economic dilemmas. Our people in Syria now are well aware of Hafiz's true nature since he has sent his henchmen to Washington to sit down with the Zionists, despite their occupation and desecration of Syrian and Arab territories and their insistence on maintaining that occupation, and despite their denial of the people's rights and freedom.

### Iranians, Iraqi Kurds Discuss Cross-Border Raids

*NC1507163593 Paris AFP in English 1454 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Report by Lissy Schmidt]

[Text] Irbil, July 15 (AFP)—Senior Iranian officials have met with Iraqi Kurdish leaders to discuss cross-border raids by Iraq-based Iranian Kurds, Kurdish sources said here Thursday [15 July].

The Iranian delegation, which arrived Tuesday and includes intelligence officers as well as political officials, is holding talks with Democratic Party of Kurdistan leader Mas'ud Barzani and the chief of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, Jalal Talabani, the Iranian daily SALAM reported Thursday.

It is the highest-level Iranian delegation to visit the self-proclaimed independent region of Iraqi Kurdistan since 1991, when the Kurds launched an unsuccessful uprising against the Baghdad government after the end of the Gulf war.

Kurdish parliamentary sources said Wednesday's talks which focused on the attacks also dealt with trade between Iraqi Kurdistan and Iran.

The sources said Kurdish officials would insist on the need to lift border restrictions imposed by Iran, in a bid to promote trade, adding that commerce topped the Kurds' priority while Iran was more concerned with security issues.

Iran which recognizes Iraq's territorial sovereignty cannot accept establishing diplomatic relations with the Iraqi Kurdish federal state, a Kurdish MP said, but Tehran could authorize the opening of an Iraqi Kurdish representation in Iran.

Earlier this month, Barzani told AFP that the Iranians would review ties between Tehran and Iraqi Kurdistan.

Iran, which accuses the opposition Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran (KDPI) of launching "terrorist acts" in Iran from bases in Iraq, last month shelled villages in Iraqi Kurdistan, forcing Iranian Kurdish refugees to flee.

Tehran has also blamed Kurdish authorities for allowing such incursions through their province.

Reports from Iraqi Kurdistan said hundreds of Iranian Kurdish refugees were set to leave the border area for a safer region.

U.N. sources in Baghdad said on July 7 that 1,250 Kurds were driven away by Iranian shelling of Iraqi border regions, adding that the United Nations was trying to provide them with shelter.

KDPI representatives said their forces had been withdrawn from the Iran-Iraq border region and an AFP correspondent reported that several former KDPI bases had been abandoned.

Kurdish officials and Iranian Kurdish representatives said they had agreed not to provoke Iran into launching more strikes against their positions.

Kurdish officials also said the Iranian secret service had repeatedly requested permission to cross the border freely to investigate the activities of Iranian Kurds in Iraq.

### Mujahidin Claim Attack on Government River Project

*JN1607082493 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 0435 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Our heroic mujahidin forces have continued their operations [words indistinct] the Islamic resistance against the central wing of the heavy industry section of the company implementing the Mother of Battles River project near the giant bridge on the al-Nasiriyah-al-Basrah road.

Sources of the Islamic resistance in the south said the mujahidin attacked the wing using RPG-7 missiles and 60-mm and 82-mm mortars and inflicted the following losses:

1. Killing or wounding more than 20 Saddamist mercenaries, including an engineer named Ratib from the al-Barsrah barracks

2. Completely destroying five Mercedes dump trucks

3. Completely destroying three huge, French-made excavators

4. Destroying two bulldozers and damaging private cars belonging to the regime's agents who are perpetrating the crime of denying water to the marshland region and people

All the mujahidin groups returned safely to base with God's support.

### Jailed Frenchman Claims Border-Crossing Forced

*NC1607111993 Paris AFP in English 0608 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Baghdad, July 16 (AFP)—Jean-Luc Barriere, a Frenchman sentenced to eight years in prison for illegally entering the country last month, has said he was forced to cross the Iraqi border from Kuwait by border guards.

Barriere, 25, made the charge Thursday [15 July] during a visit by two journalists to the prison outside Baghdad where he is being held along with a Moroccan named only as 'Ali, who was with him when he was arrested.

Barriere was working as a technician for the the French company France-Electronique in Kuwait at the time of his arrest last month.

According to one of the two journalists who visited him in prison, Eric Laurent of Le Figaro magazine, Barriere said he and his Moroccan colleague were walking near Kuwait's northern border on June 18 when the incident took place.

The two men had strayed to within 30 metres (yards) of the border, Barriere told Laurent, when Iraqi soldiers aimed their guns at them." They were then "forced to cross the border" and to say later that they had strayed across the border, Laurent said.

Barriere had said he had seen no signs indicating that he was in a buffer zone between Iraq and Kuwait, Laurent said, adding that the Frenchman appeared to be in good health.

Before leaving Kuwait City the two men had been told by authorities that they were in no danger travelling in the north of the Emirate near the Iraqi border, he added.

The only person to have visited Barriere in prison previously was a diplomat from the British embassy in Amman two weeks ago.

### Envoy Protests Continued Facilities to Allies

*JN1407115193 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1030 GMT 14 Jul 93*

[Text] Iraq has protested to the Arab League over the continued facilities offered by the rulers of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to U.S., British, and French aircraft violating Iraqi airspace, noting that this poses a serious threat to Iraq's sovereignty, security, and national unity.

In a letter sent yesterday to Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, Iraq's permanent Arab League representative said the U.S., British, and French aircraft continued their violation of Iraqi airspace on 10 and 11 July, conducting 127 aggressive sorties.

The permanent representative enclosed a list detailing the violations, and asked that the letter be circulated to all Arab states.

### U.S. Aircraft 'Violations' Protested to UN

*JN1507135693 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1018 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] New York, 15 Jul (INA)—Iraq has lodged a protest with the United Nations over U.S. aircraft violations of its airspace for the purposes of surveillance, provocation, and dropping flares. This was stated in a memorandum sent by Iraq to the United Nations yesterday. The memorandum says that the U.S. aircraft carried out 622 hostile sorties over areas in northern and southern Iraq from 6 to 12 July.

The memorandum notes that on 7 July an American aircraft dropped five flares over al-Kalak village in Ninawa Governorate. The memorandum adds that on 11 July, a U.S. F-4 plane dropped flares to the north of the northern al-Rumaylah oil field in the southern area.

### Rubinstein Denies Report on Meretz Advising PLO

*TA1507172693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1605 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Report by Mikha'el Gurdus, followed by telephone interview with Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein by anchor Hayim Zissowitz—live]

[Text] [Gurdus] The Tunisian paper AL-SHURUQ claims, through what it terms authoritative PLO sources, that Meretz ministers of the Israeli Cabinet have recently encouraged the PLO leadership to keep insisting on holding direct negotiations with Israel and on actively participating in the peace process. The report cites the sources as saying that these Meretz leaders allegedly relayed to the PLO the fact that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin will eventually be forced to make concessions—based on the Labor Party platform and the coalition agreement with Meretz—and he will move to attain a quick arrangement with the Palestinians based on the principles of the Madrid conference. The PLO sources clarified that the PLO will make no concessions contradicting its basic stands regarding a Middle East arrangement.

It is worth noting that AL-SHURUQ has had several exclusive reports in the past, citing PLO sources, but also carried several false reports on this and other political issues.

[Zissowitz] Good evening, Meretz Minister Amnon Rubinstein.

[Rubinstein] Good evening.

[Zissowitz] Are you one of the Meretz ministers who sent the message to the PLO?

[Rubinstein] No, neither me nor my friends know of such a message. This is pure imagination.

[Zissowitz] Has your party ever relayed messages to the PLO?

[Rubinstein] I have never heard of one. We have meetings with representatives here; we take part in conferences abroad which discuss peace in the Middle East. We recently had a delegation attending a Milan conference. Everything was held in the open and in public.

[Zissowitz] The conferences are often attended by Knesset members or even lower than that. Is it possible that anyone has given the PLO the piece of advice mentioned in the Tunisian newspaper?

[Rubinstein] I do not believe so. Certainly there was no message by the Meretz ministers. Also, the report is very odd. The Israeli Government is willing to make peace on the basis of the coalition agreement. There may be an argument among us here and there on various issues, but the government has a unified stand on the principal issues. Regarding the main issue currently causing delay in the negotiations with the Palestinian delegation—the issue of Jerusalem—there is a unified government stand, and there is no disagreement between Meretz and Labor.

[Zissowitz] Minister Rubinstein, thank you for the clarification.

[Rubinstein] Thank you.

### Savir on Peace Negotiations, Autonomy Agreement

*TA1507192293 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Studio interview with Foreign Ministry Director General Uri Savir by Shlomo Ganor and Eli Nisan; date not given—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Excerpts] [Ganor] Mr. Savir, with your permission let us start with the U.S. peace team's shuttle mission. How successful was its tour of the region?

[Savir] In my opinion, it was a good trip. I think they learned about the parties' positions. We tend to view every such visit as some kind of media drama or possible prelude to huge headlines. However, diplomatic success is not measured in one trip. I think they have now established a basis on which to continue their efforts. The secretary of state may visit the region. However, we must not forget one thing: a breakthrough between Israel and the Arabs can only be achieved through direct, face-to-face negotiations. The Americans told us that they had not worked for decades to convene direct talks just to digress from the framework to indirect negotiations. We will have to sit down face to face and reach compromises that will benefit all parties, and the Americans are helping by serving as a bridge. The actual decisions will have to be made by the Israeli, Palestinian, Syrian, Lebanese, and Jordanian leaders.

[Ganor] We have been holding direct negotiations for 20 months now since the Madrid conference. The question is whether we have managed to narrow the gaps between the Israeli and Palestinian positions?

[Savir] Not enough. Occasionally, the negotiations can be frustrating. Nevertheless, I believe that we have managed to set some goals, and that is also important. Today we are talking about a joint declaration of principles by both parties and then moving on to practical implementation from that point, which precedes the interim accord. We are proposing earlier empowerment to the Palestinians. There is also the possibility of a more comprehensive transfer of authorities in the Gaza Strip. Therefore, I believe we are moving closer toward Palestinian self-rule rather than the opposite, and, as a consequence, we are actually making progress.

[Nisan] Mr. Savir, is Israel currently preparing a working paper on the issues of Jerusalem and the autonomy's jurisdiction, the two issues currently blocking progress in the talks?

[Savir] As for the issue of jurisdiction, our position is clear. Jerusalem is not part of the negotiations at this stage. This issue may come up in the context of elections for the autonomy institutions. However, it has absolutely nothing to do with the autonomy's jurisdiction. Our position on Jerusalem is well known and need not be repeated. It is a pity that the Palestinians raised this issue at the current stage of the negotiations. After all, what has prevented us from reaching an arrangement in the past? It was partly because of the Arabs' refusal to accept Israel as their neighbor. Later, it was because of their unrealistic positions on finding a solution and their insistence on putting the cart before the horse. The advantage of the current process is that we can gradually progress step by step, tear down the wall of mutual suspicion, and create a new reality. The Palestinians must understand that we seek to change our relationship with them from the very roots. We do not wish to run their lives. What matters to us is Israel's security. They are in charge of their own lives and their own fate. We want to live together as good neighbors with mutual respect and security. Constantly parroting propaganda and maximalist slogans will not promote the negotiations.

[Ganor] The foreign minister was quoted as suggesting that the negotiations on the permanent arrangement be held sooner and that the interim stage of autonomy and the early transfer of powers to the Palestinians in Gaza be skipped over. Could you be more precise?

[Savir] The foreign minister has never suggested that the interim arrangement be bypassed. It is an important stage that will lead us to the permanent arrangement with the feeling of mutual confidence and security. I believe that the foreign minister was referring to his concept of the permanent arrangement: a link between the East and the West Bank, meaning a possible confederation or a federation. In the long run, such a state of affairs is desirable on our part. As for the relations between Israel and the Palestinians, between Israel and the West Bank and Gaza following the interim arrangement, the foreign minister favors negotiations on the permanent arrangement.

[Nisan] Now that the shuttle of Dennis Ross and his associates has ended, do we know when Secretary of State Christopher will arrive in the region? Is there any U.S. intention to increase its involvement to speed up the process?

[Savir] I cannot speak for the Americans, but they have claimed they want to be full partners. They also say that time is limited, that their patience will last up to a point. The world is full of crises: Yugoslavia, the situation in Russia, the U.S. and EC economic problems, East Asia. The United States has decided to be a full partner in the peace process. At the same time, the U.S. team left a message here for us and the Arabs: If you do not reach an arrangement, if you fail to use our assistance to make decisions and reach an arrangement—the United States will not be a full partner on a permanent basis. This is not a full-time job, especially if there is no profit on the peace front. The Americans will, therefore, intensify their involvement if there is progress in which they can help. The decisions will have to be made in Jerusalem and the Arab capitals.

[Nisan] In this framework, do you see a possible Christopher visit here in the near future?

[Savir] We believe there is enough basis to hope for progress and for him to come. We will welcome him, meet with him, hear from him about the other side's position. And eventually, we will return to Washington to the negotiating table—perhaps with some new ideas or some new frameworks—to finally implement the negotiations' goal. In the negotiations, we deal with so many words and definitions—and this is important—but the important thing is to basically change the reality in the region from confrontation to agreement.

[Ganor] Do the impressions Ross brought with him from Damascus indicate that the Syrian direction has changed, or will we return to Washington and again have one side saying one thing and the other side another, without really hearing each other?

[Savir] I am not certain that Dennis Ross should reveal or did indeed reveal everything he had heard in Syria. After all, it is between the United States and Syria. At this stage, we do not feel that al-Asad is ready to define the goals of peace, or in fact, the goals of the negotiations. Some may say that there is some similarity here, when Israel will not define the extent of withdrawal and Syria will not define the extent of peace. This observation does not really exist, because the difference between peace and the territorial issue is the difference between the goal and how to reach it. The goal is to make peace between Syria and Israel. We will not go for anything less than full peace with diplomatic relations, tourism, economic and cultural ties, open roads, and real cooperation—which is the real guarantee for peace. Israel is doing Syria no favors here. Syria does itself a favor. The way the territorial issue looks now is the result of a confrontation for which Syria is responsible. Only if there is a real change in the Syrian hostility against Israel could we then consider a territorial change.

[Ganor] Where could the long-awaited breakthrough take place?

[Savir] In Damascus, it is only with one person—President al-Asad.

[Ganor] Forgive me for going back to this, but do the impressions Dennis Ross brought with him indicate that the man has not yet made a decision?

[Savir] Some shift in the Syrian concepts has apparently taken place. This is maintained by Ross, as well as by us. The question is not only where we are going. It is also what if we do not pursue peace? Al-Asad should ask himself this question as well: What if he is not pursuing peace? Will he opt for war, for destruction, for the

destruction of the Syrian economy? Even regimes different from our open and democratic regime should ask themselves where they will get bread, economic development. Such regimes cannot live on their spears alone. Today, economic development is the dam that is holding back the fundamentalist opposition in the Arab countries. That is why peace is not for the benefit of the people alone. It also serves regimes, and regimes oriented toward their own interests are more interested today in promoting peace.

[Nisan] Has the Israeli desire to promote the peace process and preserve momentum prevented it from responding to the terrorists' provocations on our northern border?

[Savir] I am prevented from answering your question. I believe that when it comes to these issue, the less we speak the better. We should keep the other side guessing. In any event, it should be clear that one cannot simultaneously shoot and conduct negotiations. The rest is up to the government.

[Nisan] Let me rephrase the question: Would an Israeli retaliation harm the peace process?

[Savir] The process is harmed by the Hizballah attacks on south Lebanon and northern Israel. Israel will know how to deal with it as it has known in the past. [passage omitted]

[Nisan] Sir, you returned yesterday from a meeting with your counterparts of the EC troika in Brussels. Do you see Israel incorporated in the European bloc?

[Savir] There is a paradox here: We wish to develop a Middle East economic cooperation. At the same time, Israel's economy and society is basically closer to Europe, being an open and industrialized state. The main bulk of our trade is with Europe. Our main trade deficit is with Europe. That is why this government has started negotiations, conducted by the Foreign Ministry, to reach more than just updating our agreements with the EC, but a totally new agreement that would allow more trade in economy, industry, and agriculture; more freedom for the movement of services and capital; science and technology cooperation.

[Nisan] Did you find them forthcoming?

[Savir] As in the past months, I found them ready to work together on mutual interests. Also, I was promised yesterday that the negotiations will be expanded, and I believe that by September it will reach the EC ministers. We are expecting a positive decision to reach concrete negotiations in December, and in 1994 Israel will have a new agreement with the EC that will have a positive impact on our exports, and, as a result, on creating jobs, and no less importantly, on the level of our science, technology, and culture. We are, after all, living in a smaller world, and what we can gain from cooperating with Europe will benefit the Israeli economy and society in the areas where Europe is strong, mainly in industrial research and development, science and trade.

[Nisan] Last week we were surprised with Vietnam's readiness to establish diplomatic relations with Israel. Do you view other countries following suit, such as Malaysia and Indonesia?

[Savir] I hope so. Look, many countries have been under an undercover Arab threat, and there was no peace process here, which forced those countries to choose between Israel and the Arabs. The more progress we make in the peace process, the clearer Israel's leading the process is evident, the threat—if it exists—will lose its meaning. [passage omitted]

### Deputy Foreign Minister on 'Open-Zone' Proposal

*TA1607090093 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin by Qobi Meydan and Ge'ula Even "this morning"; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Even] This morning we asked Yosi Beilin for his comments on the new approach presented by Dr. Yazid Sa'igh [an international relations expert from Oxford University who published a paper in SHU'UN FILASTINIYAH proposing the establishment of an Israeli-Palestinian-Jordanian open zone].

[Beilin] The most important aspect of that paper, which is not an official document but an academic paper, is that the Palestinians realize they will not have an army in those areas of the West Bank and Gaza where we withdraw—in other words, total demilitarization. I must say that this is compatible with what many of them say in private talks, to the effect that an army would actually be the worst thing that could happen to them because it is the nature of armies in the Arab world to become the most central element in a country and to dominate the civilian population. They are not interested in an army, and this is very important from our point of view.

[Even] This proposal is also compatible with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' remarks that the purpose of the peace talks is to create a Jordanian Palestinian confederation.

[Beilin] The question is not the foreign minister's remarks—a confederation or a joint Jordanian-Palestinian framework is anchored in Labor's resolutions, and we have been very consistent about it—but at what stage this issue will be discussed between us and the other side. The idea of a confederation is nothing new and has been recorded in Labor's annals for a long time.

[Meydan] The question definitely is when this issue will be placed on the negotiating table, seeing that one gets the impression that in the last few days Israel has begun speaking with two voices—with the prime minister saying that the issue at the moment is an interim

arrangement, period, and the foreign minister saying that we must definitely discuss an interim arrangement now, but that it also makes tactical sense to conclude the principles of the permanent arrangement at this point.

[Beilin] I do not think there is a real conflict here because the prime minister is committed to the same resolutions, and whether to detail the nature of the permanent arrangement today or at a later stage is a legitimate argument that I do not see splitting ministries. As things stand now, all the sides are prepared to go for an arrangement and more or less agree on its nature, but remain in disagreement over the specifics of the interim arrangement. A slightly more detailed approach, a debate on the principles of the permanent arrangement—although definitely not the entire picture, we must not determine the nature of the permanent arrangement already at this point—may very well help us overcome several obstacles concerning the interim arrangement. Actually, the reason why the confederative issue is being raised today is because it is assessed that the two main problems—the autonomy's jurisdiction and Jerusalem—may be solved by a more detailed reference to the permanent arrangement.

[Even] U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher is due in Israel very soon with new ways to bridge the gaps and disputes in the negotiations between us and the Arabs. What can he actually innovate in order to have the talks resume in Washington at the end of the month?

[Beilin] The problem is not the resumption of the talks in Washington, but what their content and pace—which must highly accelerate and not remain the same as in the last two rounds—will be upon resumption. I think that his very arrival here will greatly contribute to promoting the political process. We consider the fact that the secretary of state is prepared to come here—he is taking a certain risk by coming here and definitely needs to wrap up the tour with a certain measure of progress—a very important signal denoting the U.S. willingness to evince deeper involvement in the political process. And, we all know that without such an involvement the peace process will not make progress.

[Meydan] Dr. Yosi Beilin, thank you very much.

## Political Source Says U.S. Exploring New Approaches

*TA1607103093 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jul 93 pp A1, A10*

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar, Ori Nir, and ITIM]

[Excerpts] U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to the region aims to examine several plans promoting an Israeli-Palestinian arrangement. A senior political source said last night that in the wake of the visit of the U.S. delegation headed by Dennis Ross, Washington is now exploring new approaches to the negotiations, including Gaza First, a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation concept, and a modification of the agenda mandated by the Madrid format by launching discussions on permanent arrangement elements in parallel with interim arrangements negotiations. [passage omitted]

Political elements in Jerusalem said this week that they were under the impression that the U.S. delegation, which visited the region, reached the conclusion that the preoccupation with legal drafts of joint Israeli-Palestinian documents should be abandoned in favor of more tenable initiatives. The elements maintained that the United States was going to increase its pressure on Saudi Arabia in a bid to raise large sums of money for the implementation of Israel's proposal to immediately transfer most of the Civil Administration's powers to residents of the territories.

A report received in Jerusalem about Yasir 'Arafat's meeting with the political directors general of the European troika countries stated that the PLO chief complained that the United States was not acting as an honest broker. He claimed that more than 90 percent of the U.S. document's clauses were inclined in favor of Israel's stands, and less than 10 percent were compatible with the Palestinian stands.

Addressing the defense forum of the Heights for Israel Organization last night, Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Gur said that "up to this moment, we have received no indication of a substantial shift in Syria's approach to peace."

Gur added that beyond the change in the Syrian strategic stance over the past years, "what we miss in our negotiations with Syria—unlike our talks with Jordan—is basically the feeling that they are ready to live in peace with us." He asserted that this is a focal point in the dilemma with which the Government of Israel is confronted. He added that so far, the teams negotiating with Syria have adhered to the Labor party platform as presented prior to the general elections. "All the talk we have heard over the past two to three months, that we have already made our concessions in the negotiations with Syria, are nonsense," he said.

## MK Qatzav Urges Rabin Not To Yield to U.S. Pressures

*TA1607110693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1000 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Knesset Member [MK] Moshe Qatzav, chairman of the Likud Knesset faction, has called on the prime minister not to give in to the pressures that the U.S. secretary of state will exert on him during his upcoming visit to Israel. Our correspondent Yo'el Nir reports that Qatzav believes the U.S. pressures will focus on the status of Jerusalem and the demand to stray from the framework of the Madrid conference.

Likud MK Mikha'el Eytan has called on the attorney general and the police commissioner to investigate and bring to trial Jerusalem city council members Moshe

'Amirav and Sara Kaminker, who announced the establishment of a party advocating the division of sovereignty in Jerusalem between Israel and the Palestinians.

### Labor Mainstream Forum Expresses Support for Rabin

*TA1607120093*

[Editorial Report] Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 16 July, in a page-3 item by Yehuda Tzur, reports: "Labor's Mainstream Forum expresses support for the negotiating process conducted by Rabin and opposes any change in the peace talks Madrid format. This resolution was endorsed at the meeting of some 200 members of the Labor's mainstream body, which convened yesterday at the party's headquarters on Hayarqon Street in Tel Aviv.

"In reference to recent remarks by ministers in favor of talks with the PLO, the forum called on Knesset members to refrain from making public statements on the way negotiations are conducted.

"Minister Shim'on Shetrit, chairman of the forum, stressed the importance of adhering to Israel's fundamental stands on substantive issues, such as the Palestinian state, Jerusalem, autonomy jurisdiction, Israel's overall responsibility for security in the territories, and Israel's responsibility for the safety of Israelis in the territories."

Also at the meeting, Minister Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer said "he was ready to talk with 'Arafat only if 'Arafat pledges in advance to renounce the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital, and the right of return."

'AL HAMISHMAR adds that "the Mainstream Forum praised the government's achievements in the spheres of peace, economy, and social areas."

Also reporting on the meeting, Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 16 July, in a page-A5 report by Yerah Tal, adds: "The forum further decided that 'a territorial compromise on the basis of Resolution 242 would mean that some of the territories in all the sectors, including the Golan Heights, would remain under Israeli control even after the advent of peace.'"

### Labor MK's Tour Golan, Comment on Withdrawal Issue

*TA1507205293 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1700 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Knesset Members [MK's] of the Labor faction today toured the Golan Heights and heard the settlers' claims that Labor has abandoned them. MK Eli Dayan, coalition whip, said that Labor was wrong to cut off ties with the Golan residents when the peace process started. MK Eli Goldschmidt said that Yitzhaq Rabin does not have a mandate to withdraw from the Golan. MK Lass suggested that Israel lease the Golan for 100 years and abandon the formula of full peace and full withdrawal.

Our correspondents Yo'el Nir and Yo'av Aviv report that at the end of their tour, the MK's and the heads of the Golan settlers issued a statement saying that Israel's security considerations must be part of any peace agreement and that it should maintain its hold of the Golan. The statement further says that Israel's Government should do everything in its power to see that the residents' everyday life is not harmed and continue developing all elements of life as a long-term goal.

### Shin Bet Uncovers Hamas, Fatah Squads

*TA1507201493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1900 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] The Shin Bet has recently uncovered terrorist squads of Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Fatah in Judaea and Samaria and arrested most of their members, including four Israeli Arabs who joined Hamas. The squads took part in terror attacks and planned attacking IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers.

Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that three Hamas squad members were detained in Samaria, and one of them, Nasir Jawwad from the Ramallah area, was a teacher at the Islamic collage in Umm-al-Fahm. He recruited four Israeli Arabs: Nidal Abu-Siha, head of the students' council; Khalid Da'da, a student at the Umm-al-Fahm college; 'Ali Suwayd, a graduate who served as a preacher in a mosque in the north; and Ghanim Masrawwa, a tractor operator. They are suspected of four attempts to place explosive charges on buses. In one instance, the charge exploded but no one was hurt. Members of another squad of the Bethlehem area are suspected of planting two bombs near the Military Government building in the city some three years ago. Serviceman Gay Friedman was killed, and two other soldiers were injured in the explosion.

### Target Software Said Responsible for Arrow Failure

*TA1607110093 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jul 93 p A3*

[Report by defense correspondent Aluf Ben]

[Excerpts] Defense elements stated yesterday that the malfunction during the 14 July test launch of the Arrow antimissile missile was caused by software problems. [passage omitted]

Project sources said yesterday that the target missile was launched vertically as planned. The engine functioned, and the missile attained its trajectory angle at the altitude of 25 km. After that, the missile made a sharp turn, rising to the altitude of 45 to 50 km, where it was exploded on the command of the test security officer.

According to the sources, the 14 July test was neither a success nor a fiasco, but rather a "nontest" that will be rescheduled for another day.

Elements involved in the Arrow project said in the past that the Israel Aircraft Industries' [IAI] MALAM plant suffers from quality control problems that caused several malfunctions in the first launches. [passage omitted]

[The same issue and page of HA'ARETZ carries an interview with IAI Director General Moshe Qeret by an unidentified correspondent, conducted "after the sixth test of the Arrow missile was aborted." Asked whether U.S. "dissatisfaction with the Arrow project" "is liable to jeopardize the future of the project," Qeret replies: "There is growing criticism in the United States of every project in general and each outlay made either outside or inside the country, because of the defense budget, which was slashed very significantly and will apparently be subject to more cuts in the future." Qeret adds: "We hope that as the project advances and we are able to conduct a test demonstrating very good potential, more and more circles will view the project as a blessing, rather than a burden for the Americans."]

## 'Official' Outlines Palestinian Confederation Agenda

*JN1607113893 Amman SHIHAN in Arabic 17 Jul 93 p 16*

[Political editor's article: "After Signing the Confederation Proclamation, Jordan Can Negotiate Over Palestinian Territory"]

[Text] The formation of the Palestinian-Jordanian committees to discuss future relations and coordinate positions on the negotiating process, in implementation of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement signed by Jordanian Prime Minister Tahir al-Masri and Yasir 'Arafat in October 1991, has come too late. It is now clear that the Palestinian and Jordanian sides—which have agreed since the beginning of the peace process to have a confederal relationship in the future—for the past 20 months have been negotiating with Israel on various important issues from different, uncoordinated political positions.

The question now is: Why has this step come so late? Why now?

Diplomatic sources told SHIHAN that the formation of the committees, especially those dealing with the concepts of the confederation, faced intense opposition from the Likud government of Yitzhaq Shamir, who saw it as a preemptive step that would affect the position of the Bush administration, which was not eager to take practical steps toward this confederation before the peace process had shown movement on a Palestinian-Jordanian agreement on the transitional self-rule phase.

The sources said King Husayn discussed the formation of these committees with the previous U.S. Administration. He believed it was in no hurry and wanted to await the Israeli election results.

SHIHAN has learned the situation is different now that the Rabin government, which does not object to the confederation idea, is in power. Given the deadlocked negotiations on the Palestinian-Israeli track, the confederation is one of the factors that could revive the negotiating process by reactivating the Jordanian role in negotiating along the Palestinian track, especially concerning the implantation of Resolution 242, the withdrawal from territories occupied in 1967, and a solution to the refugee problem.

A Palestinian official told SHIHAN that if a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is signed on the general outlines of the confederal relationship between the states of Jordan and Palestine, the Jordanian negotiator will have the right to discuss with the Israeli counterpart Palestinian territory, Resolution 242, the withdrawal, and the refugee problem, because all these concern the confederal state.

On the reasons why Jordan agreed to form the committees to discuss the confederal relationship, the official said Jordan does not want to be surprised by a Palestinian-Israeli self-rule agreement, a disengagement agreement, or an early solution for Gaza, and wants to play a role in any solution to reactivate the agreement on the confederation signed by the two sides just before the Madrid process began.

The Palestinian official then defined the Palestinian aims behind the hasty formation of these committees. He said an agreement on confederation between the states of Palestine and Jordan means ensuring a clear role for the PLO and a response to attempts at shunning it from any future settlement formula.

On the form and nature of the steps that will follow the formation of the committees, the official said these committees will soon convene to draw a general picture of the confederation and a general framework to be implemented by the two states after Israel has withdrawn from the Palestinian territories. It will then be possible to consolidate the confederation on the ground.

The official denied that the six committees that have been formed are nuclei for central government ministries. He said the confederation will not materialize before the territories have been regained.

The official defined the most important issues that the Palestinian side might present in any agreement on the form and framework of the confederation. These are:

1. Establishing equitable relationship between the state of Palestine and Jordan in terms of powers and authorities

2. Agreeing that a final peace agreement with Israel will not be signed except after consultations between the two sides at an agreed upon date

3. Unifying the political stands on negotiated issues and making the Jordanian-Palestinian stand on disputed issues in the negotiations one and the same vis-a-vis the Israelis

On the nature of the state and whether the Palestinians or Jordanians have a clear picture in this regard, the official voiced the opinion that he does not believe a picture is ready now, but added that a special Palestinian committee will soon draw up the Palestinian conception of the confederation.

The official did not rule out possible differences of opinion between the Palestinian and Jordanian sides on the form of this confederation, but said it is unlikely that these differences will prevent the realization of this project.

## Further Reportage on Visit of Qatari Delegation

### Declaration of Intent Signed

*NC1507185793 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] An official visit by a Qatari delegation to Beirut resulted today in a declaration of intent to cooperate in the fields of culture, economy, and judiciary. The declaration was signed for the Lebanese side by Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz and for the Qatari side by Foreign Minister Shaykh Hamad Bin-Jasim Al Thani.

The Qatari minister explained that the agreement is political, economic, cultural, and judicial in content. He added: On the economic aspect, some issues relating to the reconstruction were discussed and measures will soon be taken. In addition, there is a proposal to set up a Qatari-Lebanese company for tourist projects.

Minister Buwayz said the declaration will allow the signing of specialized protocols. He said his talks with the Qatari minister also dealt with the regional situation, the peace negotiations, and ways for Qatar and the Gulf states in general to support the Arab negotiator and the negotiations.

### Foreign Minister Departs for Yemen

*NC1607125793 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Excerpt] Qatari Foreign Minister Hamid Bin-Jasim Al Thani left Beirut for Sanaa at 1230 today. He was seen off at the airport by Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz, Qatari Charge d'Affaires Muhammad 'Ali Al-Num'aymi, and Yemeni Charge d'Affaires 'Abdallah Nasir al-Muthanna. [passage omitted]

## Israelis Conducting Searches; Resistance Stressed

*NC1507152093 Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Our correspondent reports that the Israeli occupation forces are carrying out a large-scale search campaign in al-'Urqub to capture five people who escaped from the Agent militia training camp in al-Majidiyah. The occupation forces threatened citizens and village heads in the region that the appropriate measures will be taken against them if they shelter the escapees or hide any information about them.

The occupation forces set up a checkpoint near Birkat 'Arnun to inspect cars and check passengers' identity cards. They arrested citizen Samar Husayn 'Alliq, 16, from Yahmur and took her to an unknown destination. [passage omitted]

A Hizballah delegation of Political Bureau members Hajj Muhammad al-Khansa and Hajj Mahmud Qamati today visited Sidon, where they met Deputy Engineer Mustafa Sa'd, leader of the Popular Nasirite Organization, and Dr. 'Ali al-Shaykh 'Ammar, deputy secretary general of the Islamic Group in Lebanon. They discussed the situation in Lebanon in general and in the south in particular and ways to confront the Israeli act of aggression.

After the two meetings, Hajj al-Khansa stressed that resistance operations will continue. He said no one can pressure the resistance, because it is waged by a people whose land is still occupied by a usurping enemy. He said resistance is Lebanon's only option to liberate the land, expel the enemy, and work collectively to build a society based on justice. Hajj al-Khansa added: We are ready for every eventuality and our resisting people can teach the Zionist enemy a lesson in heroism and courage. Our sons are used to sacrifice and martyrdom for the sake of the causes in which they believe.

## Additional Israeli Troops Sent to Border Zone

*NC1607062193 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0315 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Israel brought an additional 150 Israeli soldiers into the occupied Lebanese territories during the night. They were equipped with 155-mm guns and two Merkava tanks. This brings the total number of personnel sent to the region since Saturday to 800 people, 50 troop carriers, 20 Merkava tanks, 26 M-113 armored personnel carriers, 30 jeeps, four bulldozers, 28 155-mm and 175-mm guns, according to an AFP count.

REUTER has quoted security sources as saying that Israel brought 10 tanks and 100 soldiers into the occupied border zone last night. The Israeli reinforcements passed through the Hula crossing point and were deployed in Mays al-Jabal Valley.

### Further on Troop Deployment

*NC1607062893 Paris AFP in English 2246 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Tyre, Lebanon, July 16 (AFP)—The Israeli army moved 500 troops into south Lebanon Thursday, Lebanese security sources reported, as part of a buildup in the region following recent guerrilla attacks on its soldiers there.

Separately, Lebanese police accused Israeli agents of kidnapping a 16-year-old girl on Thursday [15 July] at a roadblock manned by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) near here.

The Israelis have now bolstered their presence in their "security zone" in south Lebanon by 800 personnel, 20 Merkava tanks, 28 artillery guns and 26 M-113 armoured cars since guerrilla attacks in the region July 8 and 9 left five soldiers dead.

Israel immediately threatened retaliation and also appealed to the United States to press Syria, which has thousands of troops in Lebanon, to take steps to halt anti-Israeli operations.

U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross met in Damascus on Monday with Syrian President Hafez al-Asad. On Wednesday official Israeli sources denied reports that an accord had been reached between Lebanon, Syria and Israel aimed at preserving security in southern Lebanon.

A Lebanese policeman said Thursday's kidnapping of the teenage girl by SLA militiamen and Israeli intelligence agents was the third such abduction in two months.

He said the girl was seized at a checkpoint outside the town of Arnun, which lies beyond the Israeli-controlled security strip, and then taken into the zone.

He said he had received no word on why or where the girl was being detained, nor of the other two young girls who were also taken from the area alongside the zone.

The Israeli army, together with the SLA, controls the zone along Lebanon's southern border, saying it is a necessary buffer against militia who aim to attack northern Israel.

### Iraqi Opposition Spokesman on Meeting With Khaddam

*PM1607103193 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 15 Jul 93 p6*

[Unattributed report: "'Iraqi National Democratic Trend' and Khaddam Discuss Efforts To Unify the Opposition"]

[Excerpt] Damascus, AL-HAYAH—Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam yesterday received a delegation representing "the Iraqi national democratic trend." It was announced in Damascus that they discussed "efforts to unify the Iraqi opposition."

Mahdi al-'Ubaydi, spokesman of the "National Action Committee," which represents the national trend, told AL-HAYAH that the meeting was "a part of the contacts currently being made by the trend with the Syrian leadership, especially Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Assistant Secretary General 'Abdallah al-Ahmar and Khaddam, to discuss issues pertaining to Iraq and the Arab region and ways of boosting the national trend and developing relations with the other national forces."

He added that "there is agreement in the Syrian and national trend views regarding the situation in Iraq and the region. Syria insists on Iraq's unity, territorial integrity, and sovereignty, rejects the current regime, and is in favor of finding a patriotic alternative to it. On regional issues, we support the Syrian position on the Palestinian people's rights and on combating the imperialist offensive in the region."

Al-'Ubaydi criticized the calls made by some Iraqi opposition factions urging the United States to use more force against Iraq. He said "we in the national trend differentiate between the people and the regime and cannot possibly call for an attack on Iraq, as some have, because that would be detrimental to Iraq's resources and capabilities. The United States applies double standards when it comes to implementation of UN resolutions. It also targets the Iraqi people not the head of the regime. President Bill Clinton said that he was not targeting the head of the regime."

Al-'Ubaydi asked: "How is it possible to kill innocent civilians in Baghdad and not possible to hit (Iraqi President) Saddam Husayn?" He added that the Syrian position on this issue was "identical" with that of the national trend. [passage omitted]

### Paper Hopes For Positive Results From Ross Tour

*JN1507124993 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0720 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Damascus, 15 Jul (SANA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has urged the United States to play an active and influential role in the peace process.

In an article today, the newspaper says it hopes Dennis Ross's current tour will lead to positive results that would help bridge the gaps that emerged in the 10th round of peace talks and bring the negotiating parties closer to the basic principles of peace. The paper says Israel is still as intransigent as ever, disregards international resolutions, and has done all it could to undermine the peace process.

The paper concludes by saying that Syria and the Arabs will continue to work for a just and comprehensive peace. All the United States has to do is translate the role of the full, fair partner into practice by convincing the Israeli leaders to implement the resolutions of international legitimacy.

### Commentary Views U.S. Role in Peace Process

*JN1507154193 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1138 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Contacts, meetings, and efforts in the region have increased following the failure of the 10th round. If these intensive efforts aim to break the stalemate that surrounds the peace process and solve the question of how to proceed toward new rounds, then the question that comes to the mind is: How many rounds will be held in the search for a just and comprehensive peace that ends wars, restores rights, and resturns occupied lands to their people?

It is difficult for anyone to know how many rounds will be held, but we do know that 10 rounds held over 20 months have ended with failure because one party to the peace process conspires against peace both covertly and overtly, evades its obligations, and rejects the principles agreed on for the peace initiative. This party is the Israeli Government, headed by Yitzhaq Rabin. It is really another copy of the Shamir government with its rejection, intransigence, and delaying tactics, despite the formal difference in the way each government deals with the peace talks. Yitzhaq Rabin came to power because he spoke a great deal about peace during the electoral campaign, strongly criticized Shamir's procrastination at the talks, and promised to push the peace process forward. Rabin and his team still speak—even more than before—about peace. But talking about peace and actually working for peace are two completely different things.

Probably the best description of Rabin's government is that it speaks loudly, and often, about peace, but does nothing to reach the required peace—a just and comprehensive peace, that is. The Rabin government, which keeps speaking about peace, has even excelled the previous Israeli governments in its aggressions. It is a government that has employed a policy of mass deportation on a scale not seen in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict since the racist evacuation operations in 1947 and 1948. In that operation, Army units were changed into gangs of slaughterers and criminals. The

Rabin government, which speaks about peace, bombards residential quarters with antitank rockets, and imposes collective punishments and sieges. It is a government that buries people alive—something that was not even witnessed in areas occupied by Nazi Germany during the World War II.

The Rabin government, which speaks about peace, is the one responsible for the failure of the peace talks to make progress in the first place. For the peace process to progress, first the parties to the conflict must consent to end the state of war and to have peace after meeting all the requirements. The Arabs accept peace, not just since the Bush administration launched its initiative, but since the beginning of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The UN files witness that the Arabs accepted and respected the charter of the international organization and all its resolutions on the Middle East and the Palestine question and that they cooperated with all international efforts to establish peace based on international legitimacy.

Hence, it is not strange, new, or surprising that the Arabs accepted the U.S. initiative. During the past 10 rounds, the Arabs have not stopped showing goodwill and sincere desire to advance the talks toward a just and comprehensive peace. Israel is the one that obstructed and is obstructing this progress. But Israel's responsibility for the delay and obstruction does not cloud the fact that the bias shown by the United States, which launched the initiative, has assisted Israel in obstructing the talks.

The U.S. responsibility for the peace talks is great. This regional and international responsibility cannot be relinquished by simply saying that the parties concerned should reach an understanding and should agree among themselves. This does not exempt the United States from its responsibility as the sole superpower at present. The United States is Israel's strategic ally. It supplies and is supplying Israel with all the elements that enable it to rebel against the international community, to occupy the territories of others, and to confiscate their rights—let alone the fact that the United States is the sponsor of the peace process and the party that committed itself to reaching a solution in the Middle East on the basis of land for peace and Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. It is also the one that pledged to play the role of full partner. Therefore, objectively speaking, the negative Israeli position on the talks does not erase or ease the responsibility that the United States shoulders in advancing the talks toward their set objective. No observer, who is aware of the situation in the Middle East and the nature of the U.S.-Israeli relations, can believe the argument that Washington cannot convince Israel if it really wants to do so. The United States has the means to convince Israel if these means are placed in the service of the objectives of the talks, as declared by the Bush and Clinton administrations—that is, to make the Israeli rulers accept the resolutions of international legitimacy and reach a just and comprehensive peace.

Syria and the Arabs have given the United States very important cards to use in establishing a just and comprehensive peace that will not only serve Arab interests but the interests of everyone. So, we all have the right to ask the United States to shoulder its responsibility toward the initiative it launched and committed itself to before the countries of the region and the international community.

## Afghanistan

### Foreign Ministry Protests CIS Shelling of Village

*LD1507171593 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Statement by the Foreign Ministry issued on 15 July—read by announcer]

[Text] According to [words indistinct] the CIS forces that are stationed on the Afghanistan-Tajikistan border launched [words indistinct] artillery attack on [word indistinct] village, (?Chahab) District, Takhar Province at 0200 on 23/24 Saratan [14-15 July]. As a result, seven people were martyred, and a large number were injured. The local people had to flee the village, and the district is still under threat.

The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic State of Afghanistan (ISA) expresses its strong protest at this action taken by the CIS forces and hopes that the republican government of Tajikistan will prevent the repetition of such actions, which could seriously damage friendly relations between our friendly and fraternal countries.

Also, the people of Afghanistan who [words indistinct] and have suffered a heavy price for defending their independence and freedom, are concerned at the presence of [words indistinct] forces on its borders and consider them as causing tension and an obstacle preventing the return of Tajik refugees to their homes. The speedy removal of these forces from the Afghanistan-Tajikistan border would bring about mutual trust and confidence.

The Foreign Ministry of Afghanistan also expresses concern about clashes taking place in Tajikistan close to these borders and strongly rejects reports of the participation of Afghan forces. As we have repeatedly stated, it is our wish that problems in our brotherly Republic of Tajikistan are solved by peaceful means. The ISA has in the past too expressed readiness to eliminate [word indistinct] misunderstandings. [passage indistinct]

### Clash With Hezb-e Eslami Forces 15 Jul Reported

*LD1507172493 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Clashes between forces of Hezb-e Eslami [Islamic Party] and forces belonging to the state took place in northeast Kabul early this morning.

A responsible source at the Defense Ministry of the Islamic State told a military correspondent of the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY that the clashes ceased after efforts by the Defense Ministry commission and the reason and [words indistinct] for the clashes is not known. A delegation to investigate the incident has been appointed and dispatched to the area.

## Bangladesh

### President Suspends Parliament Budget Session

*BK1607065893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0626 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Dhaka, July 16 (AFP)—Bangladesh President Abdur Rahman Biswas has suspended the parliament's heated budget session, which had been marked by opposition charges of corruption against several government ministers, an official said Friday [16 July].

The parliamentary official said the 10th session of the country's fifth parliament was prorogued indefinitely late Thursday after 31 working days, which saw acceptance of the national budget for the June 30 financial year.

A 15-member parliamentary committee of inquiry, with speaker Sheikh Razzak Ali as chairman, set up to probe allegations of graft levelled against Irrigation and Flood Control Minister Majid-ul Huq, was unaffected by the move.

By exercising prorogue powers, the prime minister can discontinue meetings of the parliament without having to dissolve it.

The 330-member house was elected in 1991 in Bangladesh's freest elections since independence.

### Jamaat Leader Azam Released From Jail

*BK1507154893 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in Bengali 1430 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Jamaat leader Professor Golam Azam was released from Dhaka Central Jail this evening.

## India

### Government Disappointed on U.S. Decision on Pakistan

*BK1507161093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] India has expressed disappointment over the United States decision not to declare Pakistan a terrorist state. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi today that it is strange that this has been done in spite of incontrovertible evidence that has been provided time and again clearly establishing Pakistan as a state that sponsors terrorism. Replying to questions by newsmen, the spokesman said that the statement of the U.S. Government based on its own information on the issue confirm that this decision is taken not on objective facts but on other consideration.

### 'Surprise' at Kashmir Reference in ICO Communique

*BK1507164593 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] New Delhi has expressed surprise at the references made on Kashmir in a communique issued at the end of the

special meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] on Bosnia-Herzegovina held in Islamabad on the 12th and 13th of this month. Speaking to newsmen, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said a number of ICO member countries which participated in the special ministerial meeting have indicated that the references to Kashmir in the communique were not discussed at the meeting, but were imposed on them at the last minute as Pakistani proposals. Pakistan's conduct, the spokesman asserted, is in contravention of the spirit of the Simla agreement. The government and the people of India find these views untenable and unacceptable, the spokesman added.

Official sources in New Delhi and that many of the member countries of the ICO are unhappy with Pakistan's insistence on dragging in Kashmir at every meeting because of their support for India's territorial integrity. This was made clear at the last meeting of the ICO, when Indonesia in a written reservation disassociated itself from mentioning Kashmir.

### Inadequate Response on Kashmir Helps Pakistan

*BK1507102793 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 24 Jun 93 p 8*

[Commentary by Arati R. Jerath]

[Text] By giving the Kashmir dispute a nuclear trigger, Pakistan has succeeded in putting this long-dormant issue back on the international agenda. After more than two decades, the world community is looking at Kashmir again and expressing a concern to which India has yet to formulate an adequate response.

The tendency to knee-jerk reactions is typified by the shrill outburst that greeted the recent comments made by the United States Interim Director for South Asia, John Malott, on the human rights situation in the Kashmir Valley. Unfortunately, the hysteria has completely obscured the need to realistically assess the pressures that are operating on India and hammer out a domestic consensus to deal with them. The harsh truth is that today, Kashmir is India's Achilles' heel and the flak we are receiving internationally on the human rights issue will only increase unless it is countered more effectively than with touch-me-not mulishness.

The pressures are essentially from two sources—the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] and the Western bloc led by the U.S. It is perhaps a measure of the establishment's refusal to face realities that the latter is viewed with a jaundiced eye despite its overall support to the Indian position on Kashmir while the disturbing signals coming from the former are blithely ignored.

Kashmir has figured in every ICO resolution for the past two years and the latest one, passed at the ministerial meeting in Karachi, hinted at sanctions to pressurise India on the human rights front. In fact, the Karachi meet should have been an eye-opener as Pakistan was joined by traditional friends of India like the United Arab Emirates in the diatribe on Kashmir.

India's response to ICO criticism is typical of its ostrich-like behaviour on this sensitive issue. Each resolution is stripped and analysed to derive comfort from any little sign that Pakistani manoeuvrings have not met with total success. Words of support whispered in private meetings with member governments of the ICO are touted as evidence that the resolutions are meaningless. There is little or no effort to evolve a strategy to tackle the growing gulf between India and the ICO on the issue.

Unfortunately, the ICO's line on Kashmir is linked to domestic happenings in India. Quite clearly the increasingly strident tone adopted by the ICO on human rights violations by Indian security forces in the Valley has its roots in the Ayodhya crisis and the consequent communal divide which a frail polity seems unable to bridge.

Just as the Non-Aligned Movement gave international legitimacy to the Palestinian cause, it would be foolish for India to ignore the possibility of a 54-member body like the ICO, with its acknowledged susceptibility to qaumi [national] pressures, being swept by the tide of history into canvassing for support for the Kashmiris. Today, Israel, battered and bruised by four decades of relentless criticism on human rights abuse among other charges, has been dragged to the negotiating table by none other than its mentor, the U.S. There is perhaps a lesson for India in this.

Western pressures, on the other hand, are more cut and dry. The interest in Kashmir is linked to the larger concern of nuclear non- proliferation, as Malott himself admitted in his controversial address at the India International Centre during his visit last month. This is where the Pakistani tactic of admitting its nuclear capability send tensions soaring, the Kashmir dispute and the resultant problems of human rights abuse and state-sponsored terrorism are of interest.

Instead of crying wolf when human rights are mentioned, the Government needs to address itself seriously to the item heading the U.S. agenda for South Asia today—non-proliferation. In discussions with their Indian counterparts, U.S. officials have continually stressed, not a solution to the Kashmir problem or an agreement to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as is commonly believed here, but the need for India and Pakistan to thrash out a regional arrangement for nuclear restraint. They have been prodding India to place its security concerns on the table and list the measures it is ready to adopt with the eventual aim of capping nuclear capabilities in the region. India must respond adequately.

Several ideas have been batted around by analysts both here and in the U.S. These include a no-first-use agreement by India, Pakistan and China, a regional cut-off in the production of fissile material and an agreement to stop nuclear detonations. None of these compromise India's position on the NPT or envisage giving up the nuclear option without adequate safeguards for national security.

The advantages of engaging Washington in substantive dialogue on its fundamental concerns are amply illustrated by Beijing's dealings with the U.S. China has once again

been extended the Most Favoured Nation status despite all the muscle-flexing in the U.S. on its dismal human rights record mainly because Washington cannot afford to jeopardise its substantial economic and commercial dealings with Beijing.

On the human rights front, greater transparency can only help India, both domestically and internationally. It is worth noting that last year's discussions with Amnesty International representatives helped to sensitise the organisation to the atrocities by militants in the Kashmir Valley. This year's Amnesty report for the first time acknowledges the abuse of human rights by terrorists. Regular interaction of this nature is more likely to blunt criticism than invite it, thereby strengthening India's stand that it is a democracy fully committed to protect human rights.

### Minister on Special Assistance to Jammu, Kashmir

*BK1507133093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] The center will provide special assistance to Jammu and Kashmir to revive economic activity in the state. Addressing a press conference in Srinagar this evening, the minister of state for home, Mr. Rajest Pilot, said that 16 crore rupees will be provided to the state under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana [Employment Program]. All functioning small-scale units will get 15 percent additional working capital for their expansion programs. Liberal loans will be provided to educated youth under Self Employment Programs.

### Rao Announces Aid for Flood-Stricken Punjab, Haryana

*BK1607093693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, today had an aerial survey for two hours of the flood affected areas of Punjab and Haryana to assess the damage. He also held separate meetings with the Punjab and Haryana governors, chief ministers, and senior officials. Later, addressing a press conference at Chandigarh Airport, the prime minister announced 21 crore rupees for Punjab and 12 crore 30 lakh rupees for Haryana from the natural calamity fund. He also announced one crore rupees for Punjab and 25 lakh rupees for Haryana from the prime minister's relief fund. Mr. Rao said that the center would do its utmost to compensate Punjab for the crop loss. The prime minister appreciated the work done by the army and the civil authorities to help the flood affected people.

Meanwhile, the flood situation in Punjab has shown signs of improvement. Repair work of roads, bridges, and rail lines is continuing on a war footing.

### Minister: Oil Exploration in SRV at 'Crucial Stage'

*BK1507090693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Oil exploration by ONGC [Oil and Natural Gas Commission] in Vietnam is expected to reach a crucial stage in the next few weeks. The union minister of state for petroleum and natural gas, Mr. Satish Sharma, said in Singapore today that the area under exploration has an estimated one billion barrel oil reserves. Presently, British Petroleum is sharing 45 percent of the cost of the project. Mr. Sharma, who had wide-ranging talks with Vietnamese leaders in Hanoi earlier this week, said India also discussed the possibilities of purchasing crude from Vietnam in the future.

The minister said that following the agreement with Oman on supply of natural gas, Iran and Qatar are now keen to sell natural gas to India.

## Iran

### Jannati on U.S. Attitude Toward Troops to Bosnia

*LD1607103693 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] The magnificent Muhammadan rites of Friday prayers were staged simultaneously today throughout the country. In Tehran, too, Friday prayers were staged with the mass participation of worshippers.

Ayatollah Jannati, the provisional Friday prayers leader of Tehran, addressed the congregation and expressed his condolences for the martyrdom anniversary of His Excellency Imam Zayn ol-'Abedin, the fourth Shia imam, may peace be upon him. He described that eminent imam's struggles against the tyrannical rulers of his time, and then analyzed the distinguished and durable role of that imam in preserving the continuity of Imam Husayn's uprising.

Moreover, the provisional Friday prayers leader of Tehran stressed the importance of continuous rejuvenation of the principle of enjoining virtue and prohibiting vice within society. He devoted a section of his sermons to an analysis of the topical issues of the day.

He strongly criticized America's opposition to the dispatch of Iranian peacekeeping forces to Bosnia. He said: The Islamic Republic of Iran is not pursuing any special interests in Bosnia. By sending peacekeeping forces, the Islamic Republic merely intends to assist international efforts to prevent the massacre of Bosnian civilians.

Ayatollah Jannati added: Despite Western obstructionism, in particular America, so far the Islamic Republic of Iran has been donating as much humanitarian aid as possible to the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Islamic Republic will continue its efforts in order to prevent others trampling upon the rights of Muslims in that region.

Furthermore, the provisional Friday prayer leader of Tehran referred to the Social Security and Welfare Week

and also to the Law Enforcement Forces Week. He paid tribute to the services rendered by the staff of the social security and welfare organization, and also by the personnel of the law enforcement forces.

### Deputy Minister on Deployment of Troops to Bosnia

*LD1507151993 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] In an interview with BBC radio yesterday, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd opposed the dispatch of Iranian peacekeeping forces to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Deputy Foreign Minister Mahumd Va'ezi has responded to that English official's remarks. He said America and the other Western countries see the active participation of Muslim countries in important world issues, including the crisis in Bosnia-Herzegovina, as something that is against their interests. This is the main reason for this opposition.

### Comments on ICO Decision

*LD1507210893 Tehran IRIB Television Second Program Network in Persian 1515 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Studio interview with Mahmud Va'ezi, deputy foreign minister for Euro-American affairs, by unidentified correspondent; from the weekly "Political Roundtable" program—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Greetings to you Mr. Va'ezi. As was mentioned in the report that we just saw together, seven members of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] have decided to send peacekeeping forces to Bosnia. What tangible consequences can come out of this action, and can the decision of the Islamic countries, pertaining to the sending of force to Bosnia-Herzegovina, be seen as the beginning of a serious move by the world of Islam in that regard?

[Va'ezi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to dear viewers. As you mentioned the situation in Bosnia is getting worse day by day particularly for Muslims because they are completely surrounded by the Serbs and Croats. During my visit to Zagreb a few days ago, I held extensive talks, both with Muslims and with Croatian officials concerning the future of Bosnia. We discussed various plans which are under review, such as the Vance-Owen plan, the discussions that have begun in Geneva, and the session held in New York. The situation is practically detrimental to Muslims and those discussions [made by Western countries] have had no effect on the war fronts inside Bosnia-Herzegovina. [passage omitted]

The ICO took a serious initiative and arranged the Islamabad meeting to which 16 important countries were invited. That was the first time that the ICO made a military decision together with its usual political decisions and decided to send peace-keeping forces to a region.

The political circles of the world did not expect such a move and that is why there were different responses toward the move after it was announced. In any case it is the duty of world Muslims and the duty of the Islamic countries to use, as much as possible, all their political instruments, manpower, and other capabilities to end the massacre that is taking place in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

I believe that the decision is a very important one. It is clear, and there is no ambiguity in it. Even expert work has already been done on it. Specifically it has been decided which countries have announced readiness to send forces to Bosnia-Herzegovina as well as the number of forces to be sent. During the same session seven countries announced readiness [to send forces to Bosnia]. All of the countries knew why they were going to Islamabad, the expert work had already been done, and the necessary coordination had been made with high-ranking officials of the concerned countries. Therefore I think a workable and important decision has been made and it is the duty of the Islamic countries and the ICO to act and help on the basis of its goals, bearing in mind that more than 2 million Muslims in Bosnia and more than 5 million Muslims in former Yugoslavia face grave problems.

I am very optimistic that these forces will be able to stop the pretexts to which Westerners resort such as inaction, delay in sending forces, and other problems which we witness every day, and be able to bring about a change regarding the return of peace to Bosnia.

[Correspondent] Mr. Va'ezi, as we discussed before, the ICO foreign ministers, in their two-day session in Islamabad, approved the dispatch of 18,000 troops to Bosnia-Hercegovina. The secretary general of the ICO also announced his agreement for sending an observer force [niruha-ye nazer] to Bosnia. But we have heard in the news that as well as America, Britain also has opposed this. What is the reason for the opposition of those states to the dispatch of those troops.

[Va'ezi] I can say that the opposition by America and the implied support by Britain for that opposition has two reasons. The first reason is that the Westerners do not want the Islamic states and the Islamic Conference—51 states in the world—to be active in important global issues or to make decisions to the extent of dispatching troops for establishing peace and security. Taking into consideration that this was the first action taken by the ICO they somehow come [pauses]... When the ICO decision on sending forces by one of its members is being opposed, we can say in effect that this is the cancellation of the ICO decision in total. And their opposition is because of this. That is one reason.

The second reason: Western states have their own interpretation for the future of Bosnia, and seek the future of Bosnia to be realised in such a way that entails their own interests. On that basis the presence and activity of Islamic states in forming peace and security in Bosnia, naturally, is not without reason, without effect on the future and the realization of what is sought to come about concerning peace. [sentence as heard]

[Correspondent] Of course, as the dear viewers are aware, I add that they have opposed the presence of Iranian forces in Bosnia.

[Va'ezi] Regarding the presence of Iranian forces, we announced that taking into consideration our resources, we are prepared to send up to 10,000 troops to help achieve peace in Bosnia. [passage omitted] Taking into account that America is aware that ever since the Bosnian issue arose Iran has used all its resources to help the Bosnian Muslims and to establish peace, if America can actually oppose Iran [pauses]... It has somehow opposed it with full intent and cancelled the decision. On that basis, America, instead of confronting 51 states, confronts the decision in such a fashion that the ICO cannot have an active presence there.

[Correspondent] Does it mean that instead of a confrontation with the ICO, America and Britain prefer to involve themselves with only one country—taking into account their political intentions?

[Va'ezi] Certainly the two issues are not separate, since it was the ICO which decided Iran was to be one of the states to send forces. Therefore the issue is not one between America and Iran; or Britain and Iran. The issue is that America opposes the decision made by the ICO. Meanwhile we must go back to when the UN Security Council resolution was adopted and the UN secretary general repeatedly asked various states to send forces. Did America send any forces? Did other countries send any forces? There are times when it can be said that enough forces have been dispatched and there is no need for more peace-keeping forces. That is one issue. That is not an issue now. The issue is that the UN secretary general himself has been seriously criticizing the weak response by states in sending forces. On that basis, the American view of the issue is in principle from the American standpoint for the Islamic states, the Islamic Conference failing to become active in the Bosnian issue. [sentence as heard]

Now this itself goes back to the question: What do the Americans want in Bosnia? That is clear for all. If we review the Bosnian crisis we see that had the Westerners wanted to seriously deal with that issue the crisis would not have reached this point at all. When a small crisis developed in Bosnia it faced differing viewpoints from the Westerners themselves. For a long time the Americans, by sending different signals—sometimes in support of the Muslims, sometimes in support of the Serbs—confused them as to what direction they were taking. Even that was true about Europe itself, where all countries ostensibly came out in support of the Vance-Owen plan. But in practise their approach is such that the plan cannnot work.

Another plan which is being worked on at the moment is the federation plan. My interpretation is that they want to promote the plan in such a way that the Muslims are put under pressure, and in the long run it either ends in the dismantling of Bosnia, or, if the federation plan is to be implemented, the federation will be such that Muslims have no role in it. That is why they want [pauses]...The Serbs' supporters are obvious. The Croat supporters in the world are also obvious. The Islamic Conference is the supporter of Muslims in Bosnia-Hercegovina. If the Islamic Conference does not have its own clearcut role in the crisis, the Muslims will definitely fail to have their legitimate rights in the formation of Bosnia after the war. That is one issue.

Another essential issue is on the basis of what criteria can a country express its opinion as to whether Iran should be there or not. We believe that the UN secretary general has the say on this within the framework of the United Nations, and not according to taste, that this country should be there and not the other.

If a country supporting the Muslims is supposed not to be there, then the countries who support the Serbs and the Croats should also not be there. Therefore we should create some kind of mechanism and define a framework and say that those countries which correlate with that framework can send peace-keeping forces. Otherwise there is no reason in it.

Therefore this American approach is just the same as other double standards which we witness in various parts of the world. American approaches are made on the basis of their own interests, which under no circumstances are acceptable. Therefore the UN secretary general should follow up this issue and determine that if the genocide and massacres are to end in Bosnia-Hercegovina, then the issue should be dealt with seriously and from a humanitarian point of view, and not on the basis of certain political intentions and motives which would only result in further tension and killing.

It is on such a basis that we believe this is a decisive, clear and unambiguous decision, and the countries involved are ready to act, and the presence of a peace-keeping forces would stop the clashes, taking into consideration the high number of forces announced by the ICO.

[Correspondent] As you have already mentioned, America has a policy of double standards in confronting world problems; we see such an attitude in Somalia, Iraq and Bosnia-Herzegovina. What is your assessment of such a confrontation? Has America, in its new world order, designed the United Nations as one of its own agents and thus downgraded the status of that world body?

[Va'ezi] America's policies, especially during the past few years, have led many countries in the world to learn about its policy of double standards. So the issues are better clarified now.

America is definitely not in a position to assume leadership of the world, to design a new world order, as Mr. Bush used to claim. America's policy has been very much weakened—whether in Europe or in other parts of the world. It is our assessment that as time goes by, America's foreign policy weakens further. And as a result it cannot attain the slogans it has always followed.

The reason for this is America's policy of double standards. Well, you mentioned Somalia; its action in Somalia was absolutely unsuccessful. If until yesterday the countries of the Third World opposed America's action in Somalia, now, according to news reports during the past few days,

even Italy, a member of NATO and a friend of America, is opposed to America's action in Somalia.

The nature of America's confrontation with Iraq, with Bosnia, and with human rights and other problems of the world indicates that American foreign policy is in a confused state. Americans try to use events in the world to their own advantage; that is how they argue at home. At the same time, they are interested in using the United Nations or the Security Council as a cover.

Such a situation has definitely changed; it will change in the future as well. Many countries in the world, especially some of the member-states of the UN Security Council, are not prepared to let America dictate its policies to them. [passage omitted]

Europe is moving toward assuming its own independent identity. In the Far East, meanwhile, Japan is denifitely not the same country it used to be. In its economic polcies it follows its own interests and shapes its relations with the outside world accordingly. That is the outcome of G-7 meeting.

In any case, we think that today the world has a tter awareness of the superpow..rs' policies. Therefore, it is no longer possible for two or three countries to design something and dictate it to the world. [passage omitted] It all shows that it is definitely not possible to shape the new world order on the basis of America's policies and dictates, and its use of the United Nations as a tool to attain its objecties and interests in the world.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Mr. Va'ezi.

### Turkish Translator's Works Ordered Confiscated

*NC1507174493 Paris AFP in English 1528 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Tehran, July 15 (AFP)—Iran has ordered the confiscation of the works of a Turkish writer who translated sections of Salman Rushdie's "The Satanic Verses," the daily KAYHAN reported Thursday [15 July].

"Ali (satirical writer Aziz) Nesin's books throughout the country will be collected from book stores," it said quoting a Culture Ministry official.

Ministry representatives will pay regular visits to bookshops and any violations they report "will be dealt with accordingly," it said.

Rushdie has been living in hiding since 1989 when Iran's late spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni called for his death for allegedly blaspheming Islam in "The Satanic Verses."

An Iranian foundation has offered three million dollars for his killing.

Iran banned Nesin's works last week after his translation of the novel prompted fundamentalists in Turkey to torch a hotel earlier this month where Nesin was staying.

The blaze killed 36 people.

### * Editorial on Resumption of Relations With U.S.

*93LA0103H London KEYHAN in Persian 24 Jun 93 p 6*

[Text] In an interview with the newspaper SALAM, Behzad Nabavi, former minister of heavy industries, expressed the view that enmity with America must continue to be one of the essential lines in the Islamic Republic's foreign policy. These remarks, coming from someone who was one of the principals in the Algiers Accord between the Islamic Republic and America in 1980, deserves more reflection than a mere empty slogan, because the person saying this is not one of the peasants who are so numerous in the government of the Islamic Republic.

He has two reasons for saying this: First, he wants to remove from his shoulders the burden of charges that he "compromised" with America and even "surrendered" to it. The order to compromise with America actually came from Khomeyni himself and was issued with Majles approval, and Behzad Nabavi was only chosen as the main orchestrator. He himself also said that, "I was neither the top nor the bottom of the onion. Others gave the orders and I carried them out."

His other reason for saying this is that the current foreign policy of the Islamic Republic, which in the midst of its confusing slogans and commotion has reached out to the United States for closer relations, is at an impasse. In making this effort, he will undoubtedly receive the most favorable reaction in the part of the government of the Islamic Republic, which has mostly formed around 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the regime.

If you really look, in reality 'Ali Khamene'i is not at all opposed to normalizing relations with America, with the sole condition that he himself initiate this and not Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

It can be said that normalizing relations with the United States is something that everyone wants except a handful of people, but no one can implement it. Normalizing relations with America has become a "taboo" in the Islamic Republic's foreign policy, like the veil in its domestic policy.

In this regard, a letter published in one of Tehran's newspapers is worthy of consideration. The writer of the letter says that everyone speaks of the necessity of fighting against "bad veiling," but every organization passes that job off to another one. This shows how the regime of the Islamic Republic makes trouble for itself, which no one is able to resolve. It recalls the story of the rock thrown into a well by a lunatic and....

Some observers of international political affairs believe, or at least say, that the United States of America has set conditions for normalizing relations with the Islamic Republic whose implementation would mean an end to the regime. There is a grain of truth in this which can clearly be seen in the human rights controversy. The answer former America president Jimmy Carter gave to two Iranian newspaper reporters could not have been merely to make them happy. Yes, the Democratic government of America

is more committed to this than the Republican government, especially since the Democrats suffered one of the harshest blows at the hands of the Islamic government. A government, no matter how "pragmatic" it might be, cannot forget such a blow. In any case, pragmatism is not the same as cowardice.

The Tehran regime has not had many opportunities to form a foreign policy with clear components. However just as those opportunities were lost, other opportunities, if they arise, will also be lost. One reason is this very "taboo" of which we have spoken. Reason dictates that this taboo be broken, but the rule of reason cannot easily prevail in a regime that derives most of its power from the irrationality of its supporters.

### * SALAM: Burning of U.S. Flag Mistake

*93LA0103B London KEYHAN in Persian 24 Jun 93 p 1*

[Text] The newspaper SALAM, published under the management of Mohammad Musavi Kho'ini'ha, supervisor of the students following the Imam's line who occupied the American Embassy, astonished its readers last week by publishing an article in support of America.

In an article signed by a law student, SALAM called the occupation of the American Embassy and the burning of the flag of the United States an "improper measure," which upset the American nation and brought bad results. In answer to the article by this student, the editor of SALAM wrote that America's exploitation of other nations and the indifference of the people of that country are disturbing, but despite these things we must try to prevent these kinds of things from happening again.

Although the burning of the American flag is not done in Iran as in the past, the reason for the change in position by the newspaper SALAM, whose editor has always been a staunch supporter of the occupation of the embassy and the burning of the American flag, is not yet palatable for the people of Iran.

Reuter reports that Kho'ini'ha, who is a black-turbaned mulla, acted as liaison between Ayatollah Khomeyni and the occupiers of the embassy during the period of the occupation of the American Embassy on Takht-e Jamshid Street. During the 14 months when the American Embassy was being occupied by the individuals controlled by Kho'ini'ha, he stood for days outside the Embassy wall speaking against America from a platform. For this reason, in those days many people considered him to be a communist leftist mulla and a "Soviet undercover agent."

Kho'ini'ha and the students following the Imam's line who took orders from him called America the "Great Satan," and after a speech they usually burned the American flag. Khomeyni called the occupation of the American Embassy a "second revolution," greater than the first revolution.

After Kho'ini'ha was isolated from his positions in the government of the Islamic Republic, the articles published in his newspaper SALAM assumed a tone critical of the government. The government's economic policies were the targets of attacks from this newspaper and SALAM advised Rafsanjani to let the public participate more in government affairs.

### * Letter to Paper on Situation of Nationals in Japan

*93LA0103I London KEYHAN in Persian 24 Jun 93 p 7*

[Text] You may know, but even if you don't know I will now tell you, that the Japanese have finally decided to close the "Sunday Market" operated by refugee and emigrant Iranians in Yuyugi Park, and they implemented an operational plan in this regard beginning the last Sunday in April.

Yuyugi Park is located in the middle of Tokyo. Iranians who had come to Japan hoping to find work and a mouthful of bread would gather on Sundays at this park, set up shop, and, in the words of the late Hedayat, would sell odds and ends. Some of them worked as itinerant barbers, cutting customers' hair for fees much smaller than those in the salons. Some sold hearts, liver, ground beef on a stick, and cold and hot sandwiches, and it is said that in the midst of these legitimate transactions, there were illicit transactions for such things as narcotics, fake telephone cards, forged visas and passports and other things.

In short, after several warnings, the Japanese mounted an operation to clean up Yuyugi Park. Initially, on the pretext that by lighting fires and operating kabob grills the Iranians had burnt the tree trunks, that the damaged trees must be protected and that new saplings must be planted, they put up a wall around the area where the Iranians were gathering and the Iranian Sunday Market was being held and hung up a large electronic sign above the walls on which was written in Persian, "do not assemble in this area" and "sale of merchandise prohibited in this area." Then police agents and immigration officials were stationed at the park on Sunday and their loudspeakers went to work, warning in Persian, English, and Chinese that foreigners without a valid visa must return to their own countries immediately, otherwise they will be dealt with severely.

This is the news. Now we have a letter signed by Jalil Azadmaneshi, who writes: I have something to say to the Islamic Republic's ambassador to Japan. Please permit me to say what I have to say to him via the newspaper. I am speaking for the Iranians living in Japan. Mr. Ambassador, whenever they say frog, you jump. (This is not the fault of the postman.)

Last Sunday when I went to Yuyugi Park, I saw an embassy staff member with a one-meter beard distributing an announcement. On the bottom of the announcement it said "on behalf of a number of Iranians living in Japan," and in this regard I must say that you are one of them.... In short, the statement said that each one of us is a representative of a nation with a genuinely Islamic culture and that our behavior is being carefully watched and studied by the Japanese. First, tell me, which genuine Islamic culture? Is it the same one that forced us to leave our country seeking a mouthful of bread, and to take refuge in countries whose citizens once came to Iran to work? Is it the one that

brought destruction, calamity, war, unemployment, bankruptcy, torture, executions, assassinations, and slaughter to Iran and Iranians? Is it the same one where whoever prayed stopped praying and whoever fasted stopped fasting? Yes, the cameras are pointed at Iran everywhere, but they do not just see the homeless and helpless people. They also see the government that is responsible for all this misfortune, and in the opinion of the viewers, definitely and absolutely, it is not more disgraceful to cut hair under the trees in Yuyugi Park than it is to cut off of the head of the translator of the book *Satanic Verses*.

The honor of Iran and Islam is not tarnished by a few vendors, or even by the seller of narcotics and forged cards. Rather, it is the export of terrorism, bombings, murders, and kidnappings that have left no honor for Iran and Islam. In your own statements you have called the people of Japan fascists, you have written that Japan's fascist groups intend to attack the Iranian community and you have advised that we not gather in the park. I must say that compared to the Islamic Republic's preachers, no other human being can be called a fascist.

Finally, the author of this letter is not of noble extraction, not from a feudal family, not a capitalist, not an idolater, and there are no political labels that apply to him. Rather, he is the son of a simple, retired, and noble worker who earned his living throughout his life through his own labor using honorable means.

## Habibi Attends Provincial Council Session

*NC1607075393 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] The first vice president, who is in Sistan va Baluchestan Province, attended the province's Administrative Council session last night and pointed out that because of security and political reasons the economy of border provinces should be tended to as much as possible. Habibi said that the main reason the country's border provinces have not developed is the past regime's political reforms. He also said: Each corner of Iran has potential which, if tapped logically and with goodwill, will give the best returns with the least effort. Habibi said that Sistan va Baluchestan Province has much potential for industrialization and if the people's awareness is increased in the region, the province will quickly change.

Pointing out that coordinated and lasting development calls for efficient manpower, the first vice president stated: Vocational training in Sistan va Baluchestan Province should be seriously pursued and students should be encouraged to train in the fields that the region needs so that an efficient industrial force can be created in the province as soon as possible.

Habibi stressed that the province's economic development should be formed by training the necessary manpower and by implementing basic and job-creating programs in the region by taking into consideration the province's climate and geography.

## • Paper Analyzes Results of Elections

*93LA0103J London KEYHAN in Persian 24 Jun 93 p 12*

[Text] Informed sources who closely follow political affairs in the Islamic Republic say that the striking drop in votes for Hashemi-Rafsanjani for this term compared to the previous term and likewise the striking increase in the number of votes for his principal opponent, who this time was Ahmad Tavakoli, former minister of labor and social affairs, took place in accordance with careful calculations.

Although 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Republic, said before the elections were held that the largest public turnout possible for the elections would strengthen the president of the republic's international position, suddenly, and before the president of the republic's stronger international position was mentioned, his domestic position has become much weaker. Political observers consider the remarks by the speaker of the Majles, which were made immediately after the results of the election were announced, to be the most serious indication of this.

At a news conference held in Tehran the day after the election, 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri said that the next government must "be formed with consideration for the views of the Majles and the points that the Majles considers to be weak must be alleviated."

The Majles speaker stated clearly that the president of the republic must not present "some of the current ministers" to the Majles, because they "are not regarded with favor in the Majles," and consequently the Majles "will not agree to the continuation of some ministers."

Political observers say that in these 14 years in the life of the Islamic revolution the Majles has never sent such a clear and unclouded message to the executive power, saying that it must choose its ministers with consideration for the inclinations of the Majles.

There are many rumors about which ministers will have to leave the cabinet and which new faces will find their way into the cabinet. For example, it is said that 'Abdollah Jasbi, defeated candidate for president of the republic and chief of the Free University, will take the place of Mostafa Mo'in-Najafabadi, current minister of culture and higher education, or that he will take the place of Mohammad 'Ali Najafi, minister of education and training.

However, the person it will cost Hashemi-Rafsanjani more to tolerate than any other is Ahmad Tavakoli, who took 24 percent of the vote as his most important opponent and for whose addition to the cabinet the "bazaar" is exerting much pressure via the Majles. Hashemi-Rafsanjani believes, however, that one "political person" on the cabinet, who is Hashemi-Rafsanjani himself, is enough, and that the ministers must show their technocratic worth more than their political leadership. Ahmad Tavakoli, however, is anything but a technocrat and everyone knows that the speeches he gave as a presidential candidate were dictated to him, because he himself has neither studied nor taught.

Informed sources say that Ahmad Tavakoli is most eager to be minister of economic and financial affairs, but acceptance of this would be a humiliation and a complete defeat for Hashemi-Rafsanjani. It is said that instead of this Rafsanjani could open the Ministry of Commerce for Tavakoli, because in this position he would also be able to serve the "bazaar" to a sufficient extent.

### * Hashemi-Rafsanjani's Politics Complicated Situation

*93LA0103C London KEYHAN in Persian 24 Jun 93 p 2*

[Text] The newspaper SALAM, which is considered the mouthpiece of the faction opposing Hashemi-Rafsanjani's policies, writes concerning the elections: If giving hope to the people means giving baseless and unrealistic promises and repeating these promises, it must be said that this is just the same as creating disappointment. Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani has been employing this policy for four years (but) nothing has come of it.

SALAM writes that Hashemi-Rafsanjani said four years ago that, "we climbed the hill and now we are walking a smooth path." Now today he is still saying the same thing. "Now we all know it is not this way. Whatever the policies of the past, they have made the situation more complicated today: Foreign debt, inflation, lack of investment, bad management and other things are not things that can be solved overnight, and as long as these problems are not solved, one cannot speak of the uphill climb being behind us."

SALAM adds: Hashemi-Rafsanjani has interpreted his votes as affirmation of the government's policies. It writes: Where did it say before the elections that you should go to the polls to affirm the government's programs? Didn't the government media say the main reason for going to the polls was to punch imperialism in the mouth and to perform one's religious obligation? Now how is it that immediately after the election you are saying that it was an affirmation of programs?"

SALAM noted that before the elections the government's political opponents were never invited to debate the candidates to explain their views. Now the way is clear for supporters of the government's policies to mock their opponents. Among those doing the mocking, SALAM named the minister of economic and financial affairs, the chief of the Central Bank and the chief of the Plan and Budget Organization.

The same newspaper asks: While the two other candidates, Ahmad Tavakoli and Ahmad Jasbi said repeatedly in their speeches and election interviews that in principle they are in agreement with the government's policies, and that they even consider him "more competent" than themselves, how did they unexpectedly get all these votes?

### * Major Defeat by Economic Reformists

*93LA0103G London KEYHAN in Persian 24 Jun 93 p 4*

[Text] It is highly likely that the recent election for Iran's president of the republic, which put 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani at the helm of the executive power, will slow the pace of Iran's economic reform and will make its contents more subject to the desires of the Islamic Republic's most conservative factions. Observers of Iran's affairs say that this nation's economic policies will lean more towards "quiet reforms," which are intended to get Iran's economy out of its current impasse without shaking the foundations of the Islamic government. The same observers add that henceforth the influence of Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, will increase in the determination of the main lines of Iran's economic policy.

#### Unity of Market and Veil

Apart from the small percentage of dissident voters (which naturally sounded the alarm for all the supporters of the Islamic Republic), it appears that in other areas, the results of this election were entirely satisfactory for the government's most conservative factions, who had come together in a large coalition composed of merchants and clergymen. This coalition, which a European observer called "unity of market and veil," put Hashemi-Rafsanjani back as president of the republic as the only person able to govern, but it cut his wings and feathers more than before, and it particularly discredited to a great extent his technocrat supporters, who were quite expressive until recently about the possibilities for advancing reform in the Islamic Republic. This coalition, which has influence over the majority of the Majles deputies, fears that economic reform will endanger the gains of the revolution.

This coalition's conditional support for Hashemi-Rafsanjani was officially stated a month ago in a detailed economic report prepared by the Tehran Combative Clergy [original group]. Also during the election Ahmad Tavakoli, former minister of labor and current editor of the newspaper RESALAT's economic page, in announcing his candidacy, made the various points in this report part of his official program. Both the Tehran Combative Clergy and Ahmad Tavakoli, who took on a specific political task and completed it skillfully, sometimes explicitly and sometimes indirectly and through references, named Hashemi-Rafsanjani as the most qualified person to implement the policy of "liberating the economy," provided of course that the limits of this "liberating" and the extent of the prerogatives of the president of the republic be specified so the misunderstandings of the past will not be repeated.

In the years 1370 [21 Mar 1991-20 Mar 1992] and 1371 [21 Mar 1992-20 Mar 1993], economic positions repeatedly gave rise to important clashes between between the Islamic Republic's various factions. The technocrats supporting Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who sought to make "liberation" a part of the framework of the First Five-Year Plan and the policy of "economic adjustment," were initially faced with opposition from the deputies in the Third Majles. The Majles, most of whose members were taking inspiration from the leftist faction of Iran's clergy, were opposed to the implementation of the policy of "liberation" because of their commitment to the economic choices made in the first decade of the revolution.

In the elections of the spring of 1992 Hashemi-Rafsanjani was able to free himself from the clutches of the radicals of

the Third Majles, but instead he became entangled with the Fourth Majles, most of whose members, in the belief of many domestic and foreign observers, are extremely conservative and are willing to accept economic reforms only to the extent that they are accompanied by many concessions.

Under pressure from the Fourth Majles, those carrying out the strategy of "economic adjustment" abandoned some of their primary goals, especially in the areas of eliminating subsidies, investment and foreign commerce. In view of the results of the last election for president of the republic, it appears that henceforth the share of "concessions" in Iran's economic policy will increase.

**A Profoundly Reactive Personality**

During the latest elections, the influential leaders in the conservative circles of Iran's clergy both supported Hashemi-Rafsanjani and clearly expressed their criticism and dissatisfaction through the words of Ahmad Tavakoli. In view of the significant number of votes for Tavakoli, it appears that many of his criticisms of the economic policies of the supporters of Hashemi-Rafsanjani will henceforth have greater power and influence in the Islamic Republic's executive apparatus. Political observers say that the unexpected emergence of Tavakoli indicates a peak in the activities of the traditional conservatives in the life of Tehran's Islamic regime.

We note that even in Islamic Republic circles, Ahmad Tavakoli is considered an extremely reactionary and inflexible figure. While he was minister of labor he sought to design Iran's labor law based on Islamic theology, Khomeyni's *Tahrir ol-Vasileh*, and concepts such as rent, wages, reconciliation, farm rental contracts and limited partnerships. However, his initiatives met with sharp opposition, even among the theologians of the Guardian Council.

On the other hand, after the announcement that he won again in the elections for president of the republic, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the economic reforms will continue. He added that the people voted for him to validate the difficult path of reforms. Experts on Iran's political and economic affairs do not consider Hashemi-Rafsanjani's optimism to be that realistic. The same experts say that henceforth Iran's president of the republic, in the very difficult economic circumstances, will be closely supervised by the regime's conservatives. Currently Iran's economy is faced with striking increases in foreign debt, new heights of inflation and declining growth. In these circumstances Ayatollah Janati, Friday imam of Tehran and a leader of the regime's arch conservative faction, says that the responsibilities of the new government will be even more difficult than in the time of the war.

Political observers consider the weakening of Hashemi-Rafsanjani's position in the last elections for president of the republic to be another important victory for Khamene'i. Since a year ago, Khamene'i, at the head of the regime's extreme conservative factions, has extended his influence in various political and economic areas and has persuaded the president of the republic to back down. Ayatollah Yazdi, chief of Iran's judiciary, said during the last elections that "Iranians are voting for the nation's second most important public figure," thereby confirming Khamene'i's preeminent role in the management of the Islamic Republic's affairs.

In the same regard French reporters write that "many officials in the influential conservative factions have implied that in his second term as president of the republic Hashemi-Rafsanjani will have supervised freedom." Hojjat ol-Eslam Nateq-Nuri, speaker of the Majles, who is close to Khamene'i, has said that the Majles members intend to supervise closely the makeup of the new government. After the elections the newspaper RESALAT stated clearly that a good minister must above all obey the leader of the revolution.

Observers of Iranian affairs are watching for the future makeup of Hashemi-Rafsanjani's government and they are especially interested in the political fate of the major implementers of "economic adjustment," meaning those who have been guiding Iran's economic policy for the last four years.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani begins his second term as president of the republic in the coming month of Mordad [23 Jul-22 Aug]. Among those who played major roles in the last four years guiding the nation's economic policy one must especially mention the Nurbakhsh-'Adeli axis, of whom the former was minister of economic and financial affairs and the latter the chief of the Central Bank. These two played the top roles, both in designing Hashemi-Rafsanjani's economic strategy and in creating relations between Iran and international economic organizations. Among the ministers of the current government, people such as Ne'matzadeh, minister of industries and Mahlujchi, minister of mines and metals, have always supported the economic opening and change in Iran's industrial policy.

Likewise the technocrats such as Roghani-Zanjani, chief of the Plan and Budget Organization, have played key roles in planning the major policies of the First Five-Year Plan and presenting the major directions to be taken by the Second Five-Year Plan, to be implemented beginning in 1373 [21 Mar 1994-20 Mar 1995]. There is no doubt that during Hashemi-Rafsanjani's first term as president of the republic, the above individuals were able to put Iran's economic policy, which previously turned around revolutionary radicalism, into a new orbit, and to bring it closer to international norms, to the extent that that was possible in the government of the Islamic Republic. In the future, under pressure from the conservatives, will these people be removed from public life, even if, like their leader Hashemi-Rafsanjani, they show great flexibility in the coming months?

## * Raja'i-Khorasani on Altering Court System, Rights

*93LA0103A London KEYHAN in Persian 1 Jul 93 p 1*

[Text] In an interview in Tehran, Seyyed Raja'i-Khorasani, Majles deputy and official in charge of the Islamic Republic's new Human Rights Committee, protested the efforts

being made to isolate Iran internationally because of its political inconveniences in the world. Khorasani said: Henceforth Iran's Human Rights Committee will supervise trial procedures and their stages in the courts, the situation in prisons and social justice in the country. He added: There are minor differences between Islamic laws and international human rights conventions.

Raja'i-Khorasani continued: Differences between Islamic interpretations and international interpretations on human rights appear only in limited areas such as insulting sacred symbols. In mentioning this point Khorasani was referring to the order to kill Salman Rushdie, author of the book *Satanic Verses*.

According to Raja'i-Khorasani: With the adoption of new policies by the Majles in the area of human rights, the differences between Iran's views and the real international positions will be significantly reduced and relations between the Islamic Republic and the groups defending human rights will be significantly improved.

Raja'i noted: Iran's Human Rights Committee was not formed for the purpose of reacting to international protests against the Islamic Republic. Rather, the purpose in forming this committee is to investigate Iran's domestic problems in the area of human rights.

Raja'i told reporters: There is no need to tell Iranians how they should live. At the same time, Islamic values will remain in force. He emphasized, however, that the nature of the activities of the revolutionary courts must be changed to the form of the ordinary courts. Khorasani denied that there is persistent discrimination against religious minorities such as the Baha'is and that women's rights are ignored, but he agreed that sad injustices have occurred in some cases, such as with women whose spouses have abandoned them, and attention must be given to these.

On the other hand Hoseyn Mehrpur, a legal specialist on the Guardian Council, gave a report to the Foreign Ministry, part of which was published in the Islamic Republic's press. In the report he said: In many important and minor instances, the Constitution of the Islamic Republic differs in this area from declared international conventions and human rights principles.

### * System of Government Slowly Purged of Basijis

*93LA0103K London KEYHAN in Persian 24 Jun 93 p 12*

[Text] It is said that although the plan to employ mobilization members as "court bailiffs" permitting them to fulfill their "religious duty" to enjoin good and prohibit evil with legal justification was approved with enthusiasm and commotion by the Majles, they are being quietly dismissed from this task.

Informed sources say that 'Ali Khamene'i, who was himself the main initiator of that plan and who called on the basijis to enjoin good and prohibit evil several times in speeches even before the plan was approved in the Majles, and who even asked the police and prosecutor forces not only not to bother them but also even to help them, finally agreed to the removal of the basijis.

Informed sources mention two main reasons for the removal of the basijis: First, many of them are still inclined to chant hard-line and revolutionary slogans, mostly under the influence of a faction that is called "hard-line" and is staunchly opposed to Hashemi-Rafsanjani. For that reason it is not wise for 'Ali Khamene'i to give the Guardian Council a free hand in removing that faction from power.

There is another major reason for dismissing the basijis, and that is that clashes between them, who are mostly young people, and the public, are becoming more numerous, more intense and more violent. Tehran's newspapers sometimes report that some young mobilization member was seriously wounded or killed in a scuffle with youths who were doing "prohibited things."

Informed sources say that the number of violent clashes is much greater than what is reflected in the newspapers, to the point that the "Supreme National Security Council" voted at a meeting to gather the basijis off the streets, at the price that the "religious duty" of enjoining good and prohibiting evil was once again left without anyone in charge. The same sources say that Khamene'i, despite his inner inclinations, thought it in the country's best interest and agreed to the vote of the National Security Council.

### * SALAM Fiercely Attacked by Hashemi-Rafsanjani

*93LA0103F London KEYHAN in Persian 24 Jun 93 p 3*

[Text] In the first Friday prayers service he has read since his reelection as president of the republic, Hashemi-Rafsanjani harshly attacked the newspaper SALAM, which has mercilessly criticized Hashemi-Rafsanjani's policies in its last few issues.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that SALAM is an "unfair" publication and does not understand his worth. He asked:

"Isn't the continuous struggle against the Pahlavi regime and against America and Israel valuable?"

"Isn't it valuable to respect the "light of the eye of the imam" (meaning Ahmad Khomeyni)"?

"Wasn't it valuable to manage the war during those difficult years?"

"Isn't it valuable to have the confidence of the exalted leader?"

It is interesting that Hashemi-Rafsanjani mentioned having the "confidence" of the exalted leader at the bottom of his list of revolutionary values.

### * Inequities Widened Between Social Classes

*93LA0103P London KEYHAN in Persian 24 Jun 93 p 6*

[Text] In an interview published on 8 June in the newspaper SALAM, Dr. Amir Baqer Madani, professor at

Martyr Beheshti University, said: In view of existing statistics, more than half of the people in the country are living below the poverty line, yet in 950 families there are 15 trillion rials [Rls] currency in circulation. On the other hand, according to statistics from the Central Bank, more than Rls30 trillion currency in circulation is in the hands of a small minority, most of whom were in the nation's deprived class until 10 years ago.

### * 'Abdollah Jasbi on Banning of Satellite, Videos

*93LA0103D London KEYHAN in Persian 24 Jun 93 p 2*

[Text] Dr. 'Abdollah Jasbi, president of the Free University and one of Iran's candidates for president of the republic, who also got several thousand votes in the elections, said in an interview with the publication SINEMA in Tehran that the vigorous action and opposition to videos, the worrying about the satellite invasion and the measures to prevent these things that accompanies the concern of officials have been useless and fruitless. Dr Jasbi said: Opposition to satellites, banning them and declaring them infidel will not cure any of our pain, it will increase our problem, and we will be helpless the day the satellites surround us.

Jasbi added: I believe the satellites will come and they will fill the empty space in our society and the mouths of our youth, whether we like it or not. The enemy will pursue his interests, not our wishes.

The president of the Free University continued: To oppose this monster whose head will soon appear, we should not be passive, as we were during the episode with the videos.

Concerning videos, Dr. Jasbi expressed his views as follows: The first time the subject of videos came up in the Supreme Cultural Revolution Council, I spoke in favor of deregulating them. I believed and do believe strongly that videos must be deregulated. I believe that these kinds of restrictions will create problems for society and that they will not prevent the penetration and spread of videos. In other words, videos are a medium, and instead of preventing their importation, the way to use them must be taught. I know that when videos were not deregulated they were in homes and were being used, and this prohibition did not detract anything from the extent of their use.

### * AIDS-Infected Patients Double Yearly

*93LA0103L London KEYHAN in Persian 1 Jul 93 p 2*

[Text] The number of people who are infected or who are suffering from the catastrophic and incurable AIDS disease doubles each year in Iran. Dr. Amami, secretary of the Anti-AIDS Committee, announced the above in an interview with IRNA's correspondent. He said: In the year 1365 [21 Mar 1986-20 Mar 1987] only one case of this disease was identified. Now this figure has increased to 286, but he added that since patients and individuals who are likely to have been infected with this disease usually refrain from revealing their identities, accurate statistics on this cannot be obtained.

On the other hand, informed medical sources who have relatively accurate knowledge of the situation with this disease in Iran say that the number of patients and infected individuals is much higher than what is shown in the official statistics.

The secretary of the Anti-Aids Committee said: Sexual contact with travelers who go abroad and the transfer of infected blood, especially among drug addicts, are the main reasons for the spread of AIDS in Iran. According to him, Khorasan, with 1.8 cases per million, is the most infected part of Iran.

### * Arrest of 9,000 Addicts Reported

*93LA0103M London KEYHAN in Persian 1 Jul 93 p 1*

[Text] An Islamic Republic military official said: In recent days 9,000 addicts have been arrested, and if they continue using narcotics, the addicts may be executed.

Brigadier General Shafi'i added: Between 16 and 20 June, 882 narcotics smugglers were also arrested. Shafi'i said: A law has been approved under which addicts who use narcotics for the third time will be condemned to death.

Based on published reports, most addicts return to the use of narcotics after quitting their addiction.

Shafi'i said: This year the consumption of opium, heroin and hashish is much greater than that of last year.

### * Millions of Stimulants Seized in Storage

*93LA0103E London KEYHAN in Persian 24 Jun 93 p 2*

[Text] Drugs that the "antisocial corruption group" has called "stimulants and antiweakness drugs" have been confiscated at a warehouse on Tehran's Naser Khosrow Street. The drugs, which were in the form of chewing gum, were called "aphrodisiac" and "corrupting."

Agents say that as the result of investigations of reports from the "hezbollah nation," they succeeded in making this large seizure. The value of this seizure was announced at "millions of rials."

According to the Tehran newspapers, after receiving the reports agents noticed that a person named Zabih, who worked at the Minu'i passage on Naser Khosrow Street, was distributing this "aphrodisiac" gum in East Tehran. One of the agents entered into a transaction with him posing as a customer, and paid him 2,700 tomans for a package containing 10 pieces of gum. During this transaction the aforementioned person was arrested.

Experts think the drugs were manufactured in Switzerland and Germany, and they are not allowed to be sold in these countries because they are carcinogenic.

## Nepal

### Government, Opposition Hold Talks To Resolve Crisis

*BK1607100293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] In Nepal, high-level talks are being held between the ruling Nepali Congress and the main opposition Communist Party of Nepal-UML [United Marxist Leninist] to resolve the political crisis. AIR [All India Radio] Kathmandu correspondent Ratan Saldi reports that though some progress was made at the talks yesterday, the Communist Party is still demanding Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala's resignation. Those present at the meeting included Dr. Koirala, Mr. Ganesh Man Singh, and Mr. K.P. Bhattarai of the ruling Nepali Congress. Another round of talks are scheduled for this evening. Meanwhile, both the parties are going ahead with the mass mobilization campaigns.

## Pakistan

### President To Retire; Snap Elections Expected in Oct

*BK1607114993 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 16 Jul 93 p 1*

[By Tariq Butt]

[Text] ISLAMABAD—Within minutes after a sudden meeting between the Chief of the Army Staff [COAS], General Abdul Waheed, and the opposition leader, Ms Benazir Bhutto, the APC's [All Party Conference] long march was called off.

After day-long hectic meetings between the COAS and President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, Ms Bhutto was flown into the capital from Lahore in an Army aircraft on Thursday [15 July] evening. She immediately went into session with COAS at his residence.

Soon after, Ms Bhutto's party spokesman announced that the PPP [Pakistan People's Party], in response to the Army's request, had decided to call off the long march, planned for Friday. "This," explained the spokesman, "had been done in the higher national interest."

The formal announcement of this came later in the night from APC leaders.

On a day of dramatic developments and hectic activities, the power troika hammered out an agreement, in principle, to resolve the lingering political crisis which has held the country hostage for many months.

The Army will be the guarantor for the implementation of the agreement, which has, however, not been officially confirmed. The agreement will start unfolding within the next 78 hours.

Its broad contours, according to informed circles, are: One, the President will go on leave for the rest of his five-year term, which expires on December 12 and the Senate Chairman, Wasim Sajjad, will take over as Acting President, as is required in accordance with the Constitution.

This will provide an honourable exit to the 82 year old veteran who has closely seen every government coming and going since Independence. His career spans more than four decades.

Two, the Prime Minister will advise to the President dissolution of the National Assembly by Saturday paving the way for snap general elections in coming October. A caretaker prime minister will be appointed in his place.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, a retired General, who has been Pakistan's foreign minister for many years, and who is currently Personal Representative of the UN Secretary General, is likely to replace him.

However, some other names are also being mentioned for this slot. Ms Bhutto will also have to be taken into confidence on this appointment. "It is a mere speculation," she told a questioner who asked about the possibility of Sahabzada taking over as caretaker Premier.

Three, neutral interim setups will be established in the provinces. Steps will be taken to improve confrontational political atmosphere in the Punjab, which has gripped the province for the past three months.

Four, necessary measures will be taken to ensure fair, free and impartial elections for which the Army will play a key role.

The Chief of Army Staff, General Abdul Waheed, shuttled between the Aiwan-e-Sadr [President's House] and the Prime Minister's House throughout the day, carrying proposals and counter-proposals to break the political deadlock. And he reportedly succeeded at last.

Finally, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and the Army Chief went to the Aiwan-e-Sadr and consultations continued for nearly 90 minutes. It was clear that a basic agreement on broad issues was reached. Many details are still to be worked out.

The sequence of the day long meetings is noteworthy. The COAS had a 75-minute [meeting] with the Prime Minister. Then he met the President for an hour. He came back and had another meeting with the Prime Minister for nearly 45 minutes. After that, the two went to the Presidency for 90-minute meeting.

Prime ministerial sources said that they have told the President and other forces that they will not take any decision under the pressure of the long march. First, the protest should be cancelled and then, negotiations will be held, they said.

These circles said that the Prime Minister was ready for elections but he had reservations about the APC demands.

Neither government nor PPP circles gave details of any deal. Asked at a late night news conference, Ms Bhutto said if the President and the Prime Minister had reached some

consensus solution, only they can reply this question. "I will call on the President on Friday if he is available in the office," she said.

Ms Bhutto remained cautious and did not offer comment certain direct questions. At 1 a.m. (Friday) APC leaders, including Nawabzada Nasrullah, gathered at her residence for a meeting. She took them into confidence about calling off the protest. They agreed to it.

After daylong feverish activities, the Prime Minister went to [words indistinct] engaged in consultations with his close aides. In fact, he dropped a hint during an interview with the PTV [Pakistan Television] about the changed scenario. "Pakistan and democracy is more dear to me than personal ego. I will prefer national interest over my own," he remarked.

His brother, MNA [Member of National Assembly] Mian Shabhaz Sharif said in a statement that elections can only take place if the president goes.

Interior Minister Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain told The News that the Prime Minister had never compromised on principles. He said he had stated six days ago that the long march had no public support and finally, it will be called off. It has happened, he said.

### Sharif Expresses Hope for Resolution

*BK1607030593 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 16 Jul 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif has expressed the hope that national issues will be resolved in the spirit of mutual understanding, patience and tolerance. In an interview with Pakistan Television, he said that he held meetings with the president during the past few days with a view to end the tension and save democracy so that no harm is done to Pakistan. He said Pakistan is more dear to him than anything else. The prime minister said he did not give any importance to personal interests and ego because the interests of Pakistan is dearer to him.

Mohammad Nawaz Sharif said that after the restoration of the National Assembly, he tried his best to create an atmosphere conducive to the smooth running of governmental affairs. He said that he made concrete efforts to steer Pakistan out of the present state of affairs and expressed the hope that the country will come out of this situation with the prayers of the nation.

On his address to the nation, the prime minister said that he postponed his speech twice and added that he will address the nation after controlling the situation. He expressed the confidence that he would address the nation when the issues are resolved with mutual understanding in accordance with the aspirations of the nation.

### Situation in Hyderabad Reported 'Under Control'

*BK1507160293 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] A press note issued by the District Magistrate of Hyderabad says the general law and order situation in the city is under control. However, there were some incidents of shooting in the air and firecrackers being set off by miscreants. In one incident, an old woman succumbed to her injuries caused by a pistol shot.

### Pakistan Deleted From U.S. 'Terrorist' Watch List

*BK1507112193 Islamabad THE NATION in English 15 Jul 93 pp 1, 4*

["News Analysis": "Now It's India's Turn To Face the Music"]

[Text] Islamabad—Foreign Office Mandarins were jubilant on Wednesday night [14 July] after the U.S. State Department announced that it had deleted Pakistan from its watchlist of terrorist nations, confidently predicting that India would now come under considerable pressure from Washington for its human rights violations in Held Kashmir.

"The announcement from Washington finally recognises that Pakistan is a peace-loving country. The campaign launched by India and other anti-Pakistan forces has failed. New Delhi used the charge of terrorism as a smokescreen to conceal the criminal violation of human rights and brutal suppression of the struggle of the Kashmiri people," said Secretary-General of Foreign Affairs Akram Zaki.

He said that Pakistan was opposed to all forms of terrorism, including organised state terrorism practised by India against the innocent Kashmiri people. The world community had an obligation to uphold the human rights of the Kashmiris struggling for their right to self-determination, and to condemn the state terrorism practised by India forces in Held Kashmir, he added.

While U.S. diplomats maintain that the decision to vindicate Pakistan was purely a legal decision, there is no denying the long- term implications it has for the nuclear regime of South Asia. With the Nonproliferation Treaty due for revision in 1993, the State Department was painfully aware that India was being allowed to carry on with its nuclear programme because of the tremendons pressure Pakistan was facing after imposition of the Pressler Amendment and because of the threat of being declared a terrorist state.

However, it wasn't until the Clinton Administration assumed office that the political action of the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad could press that point. Previously, Pakistan had faced considerable hostility from the Assistant Secretary of State Theresa Schaeffer, who refused to extend her excellent personal relations with former Ambassador Syeda Abida Hussain to her dealings with Islamabad. But because of the complications in finding a successor to Schaeffer, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan got short shrift from Secretary of State Warren Christopher when he was sent by the Prime Minister as a special envoy.

Ironically, the real breakthrough came during the 38 days when Sharif was in opposition. Optimism was sparked in Pakistan by President Clinton's nomination of Robin

Raphel, then serving as Political Counsellor at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, for the newly-created post of Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia. This optimism was not unfounded, because Raphel had personally investigated the Bombay blasts and had absolved Pakistan of any blame. And when she arrived in Islamabad for informal talks, she was reviving several previous friendships from the time when she accompanied her husband, the late Arnold Raphel, during his posting as Political Counsellor and then as Ambassador, when he died in the C-130 crash which also killed President General Ziaul Haq.

Her low-key visit was then followed by official talks between the Pakistan Government and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia, John Malott, which proved the turning point in the terrorist saga. Shortly before the two visits, then caretaker Prime Minister Mir Balakh Sher Mazari had told relieved Arab delegates to the 21st Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in Karachi that Pakistan would not allow its soil to serve as a base for insurgency movements in the Maghreb, and [word indistinct] did it intend to allow fundamentalism to be exported from its territory.

With the Arabs largely satisfied, the Americans still had to be satisfied that Pakistan was not sponsoring Kashmiri mujahideen in their freedom struggle against Indian occupation forces. With a swift stroke of the executive pen, Inter-Services Intelligence chief Lt. Gen. Javed Nasir and his Lt. Gen. Asad Dutrani were retired.

Malott was told point blank by the Pakistan Foreign Office that it had done all that Washington had asked for, but that it was still under tremendous pressure because of India's covert missions in Sindh and Punjab. Malott, now in possession of evidence of Indian terrorism in Pakistan, set off for Delhi, where he expressed his government's concern at the human rights violations in Held Kashmir. Predictably, India told him to mind his own business. Subsequently, Washington increased its pressure on the Russian Government to refrain from selling advanced rocket and missile technology to India.

There were, however, obvious fears that the restored Sharif government might reinstate Lt. Gen. Javed Nasir in some capacity, in which case the diminishing chances of Pakistan being declared a terrorist state would have been resurrected. However, Nawaz Sharif the businessman was by now well aware that his industrialist supporters, particularly the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association, were being severely hampered by restrictions being imposed by the Americans on their exports. This was confirmed by the decline in exports disclosed in the trade figures for fiscal 1992-93. It took no genius to realise that if Pakistan was labelled with the terrorist trademark, the subsequent international trade embargo would leave the country on the verge of collapse.

More significantly, the Army made it clear to him that its operational capability, already severely affected by the cut-off of military aid under the Pressler Amendment, would go from bad to extremely worse if Pakistan was branded a terrorist state. As such, GHQ [General Headquarters] was not prepared to see its motherland reduced to a banana republic.

But for those who expect a revival of the U.S.-Pak partnership of the palmy days of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, there is to be disappointment. Washington's priorities have changed and its now limited financial resources are committed elsewhere, Congress is still in no mood to repeal the Pressler Amendment, even though the State Department may feel that the time has come. The only difference is that under the Clinton administration's professed "evenhanded" approach to its relations with Pakistan and India, both countries will come under formidable pressure to roll back their modest programmes.

## U.S. Move Welcomed

*BK1507163693 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] The minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr. Mohammad Siddique Khan Kanjoo, has said the government is pleased with the determination of the U.S. Secretary of State that Pakistan is not providing support for international terrorism. In a statement in Islamabad, he said this decision has vindicated Pakistan's repeated declarations and assurances on the issue. It is the hope of the Pakistani Government that with this issue out of the way, Pakistan and the United States will find it possible to focus attention on specific steps to enlarge cooperation and further improve their long-standing and friendly bilateral relations. He said Pakistan looks forward to a substantive dialogue with the United States for this purpose. The minister of state for foreign affairs said we have welcomed the U.S. interest in promoting peace and stability in South Asia, preventing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and helping to resolve the underlying causes of tension and conflicts on the basis of equity.

He said the outstanding dispute over Jammu and Kashmir and the massive Indian campaign of repression against the freedom struggle of Kashmiri people is the primary cause for tension in South Asia. He hoped the United States will actively press the Government of India to bring an end to the massive violations of human rights in occupied Jammu and Kashmir by Indian forces and to enter into a genuine dialogue to achieve a settlement of this dispute in accordance with the UN Security Council Resolution and in the spirit of the Simla agreement.

The leader of the opposition in the National Assembly, Benazir Bhutto Sahiba, welcoming the American decision said that it would go a long way in helping Pakistan in preventing itself from going into isolation. She expressed her determination that forces in the opposition would continue to play their role (?in attempts) to safeguarding the national and strategic interest of the country.

### Foreign Minister on Troops Sent to Somalia, Cambodia

*BK1507145793 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] The Senate was informed today that the Pakistani troops have been sent to Somalia in response to the United Nations call and the decision endorsed by the Islamic Conference Organization. The minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr. Mohammad Siddique Khan Kanjoo, was responding to three identical adjournment motions sought to be moved by Professor Khurshid Ahmad, Mr. Iqbal Haider, and Hafiz Hussain Ahmad with regard to the deployment of Pakistani troops in Somalia and Cambodia as part of the UN peacekeeping forces. Mr. Kanjoo reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the UN peace-keeping operations in Somalia. He asssured the house that the government is fully alive to the situation there and appropriate measures have been taken to ensure maximum security for our troops deployed in Somalia.

During question hour, the federal minister for information and broadcasting, Mr. Abdul Sattar Lalika, informed the house that the statements of the members of the opposition are given coverage on television and radio according to their news worthiness. He said no discrimation was made against the members of the treasury benches, opposition, and independent members as far as their coverage is concerned. Clarifying government's policy regarding coverage of the opposition over electronic media, Mr. Lalika said that speeches of opposition leaders in public meetings are also included in news bulletins according to available time. The minister said television and radio do not broadcast such statements which could create law and order problem and differences among various sections of society. The house deferred discussion on flood situation till Tuesday and decided that debate on the latest situation in occupied Kashmir will be held on Thursday next. The Senate will now meet Sunday.

## Sri Lanka

### Fugitive Leader of LTTE's Sun Bird Unit Arrested

*BK1507123493 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] An LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] arms expert and reported leader of the naval unit of the Tiger's Sun Bird organization was arrested by the CID [Criminal Investigation Department] at Katunayaka Airport yesterday. Known as Kumarswami Sri Kantan of Adampan, Mannar, he had earlier escaped from the custody of the Malaysian police when the LTTE's chartered arms ship, the Sun Bird, was nabbed on the Malaysian shore two years ago. Subsequently, Interpol and the airports of five Asian countries were alerted for his arrest. The suspect, said to be an ammunition expert and an authority on LTTE's arms shipment, maritime routes, and naval operations had once trained the Sea Tiger units. He had also served in the arms ship involved in Kittu's [LTTE leader] suicide. Security authorities say the suspect's visit to Sri Lanka this time may have been to patch up LTTE leader Prabhakaran with his deputy Mahendraraja alias Mahattaya, and to arrange another arms shipment to the LTTE in the North.

### SLFP Chief Suspends Son From Party; Crisis Deepens

*BK1507152493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1236 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] Colombo, July 15 (AFP)—Sri Lanka's main opposition leader and former premier Sirima Bandaranaike suspended her legislator son Anura on Thursday [15 July] from her party, divided by numerous factions, plunging it in further crisis, political sources said.

Bandaranaike, 77, who became the world's first woman to be prime minister in 1960, suspended Anura after a closed-door meeting with a small group of loyal members of her Freedom Party (SLFP) central committee, the sources said.

They said the suspension was a first step to expel Oxford-educated Anura from the party to clear the way for his sister Chandrika, who has a political science decree from the Sorbonne University, to take over the SLFP leadership.

"Everybody is shocked at the way this was done. We are going to meet this lady Bandaranaike and protest," SLFP stalwart and Anura-loyalist Mahinda Rajapakse said.

As news of Anura's suspension spread, his supporters gathered at his home here. A scheduled Central Committee meeting on Thursday evening had been cancelled. Anura has often criticised the SLFP leadership and opposed his mother's faction, aligning the party with minor leftist groups to contest local elections.

There was no immediate word from Bandaranaike about her action. She had accused Anura of "misconduct."

Constitutionally, any member of parliament expelled from his party automatically loses his seat in parliament but has one month to take his case to court or go before a select committee of parliament.

Anura, 44, is the national organisor of the SLFP and has at times acted as the leader of the opposition in the absence of his mother.

Political analysts have often labelled the country's deeply divided and faction ridden opposition as a great asset to the ruling United National Party (UNP) which has remained in office since coming to power in 1977.

### Garment Exports Generate 50 Billion Rupees in Income

*BK1507122493 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 15 Jul 93*

[Text] The garment industry has become the highest foreign exchange earner and the main source of employment generation. The anticipated income from the industry this year is 60,000 million rupees. The minister for handlooms and

textile industry, Mr. U.B. Wijekoon, has said that the income from the garment sector last year was 50,000 million rupees. In an interview with the SLBC [Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation], the minister said that the garment industry progressively developed from 1989 under the former president till last year, when Sri Lanka exported 376 million garments. Sixty-eight percent of the garment exported went to the United States. The other main buyers were the European Community and Canada. Sri Lanka's garment quotas have progressively increased each year and no probiem has arisen as a result of the quota problem. The minister said that an officer will be appointed in each district to coordinate activities and effective functioning of the 200 garment factories. Sri Lanka has become the sixth largest supplier of garments in the world. Secretary of the ministry, A.P. Hapudeniya, said no complaint was received regarding the new garment factories. The ministry receives a monthly report regarding the functioning of these garment factories.

### Diplomats Welcome Liberalization of State Media

*BK1407144493 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 14 Jul 93*

[Text] The foreign diplomatic community in Sri Lanka has welcomed the liberalization of the local state-run radio and television networks by President D.B. Wijetunge. The diplomats described it as a logical step in the right direction. Highly placed foreign diplomats in Colombo told the national news agency LANKAPUVATH that a free media and a free flow of information were essential for a free economy to function satisfactorily.

President Wijetunge's directive that the ultimate aim of the programs of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation and the national television network—Roopavahini—shall be information and not propaganda was a logical step in the right direction in further development of Sri Lanka's open economic program, targeted to achieve the newly industrialized country status by the year 2000.

The president's warning that overexposure of the government's program and achievements in the media was counterproductive and self-defeating was a courageous and realistic statement of fact. The diplomats further said that Mr. Wijetunge's directive coming in the wake of highly favorable international publicity following the economic roundtable conference in India reiterated the Sri Lankan Government's firm policy of guaranteeing an open economy within the framework of a free society where all democratic freedoms were respected and guaranteed.